

*Hafa Adai!*

# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXI, Issue No. 16

THURSDAY JANUARY 20, 2011

www.saipantribune.com 50¢



## OPINION METER

**This week's poll:**

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 the lowest and 5 the highest, rate your level of optimism that the CNMI economy will improve this year.

Let your voice be heard! Go to [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com) to cast your vote.

## INSIDE



### S. Shriver, 95

One of the last links to President John F. Kennedy's administration has died.

**NATION...Page 14**



### Flood Deaths

Flash floods drown more people, raising the death toll in the Philippines to 57.

**ASIA...Page 15**



"The King's Speech" leads the race for the British Academy Film Awards.

**LIFE & STYLE...Page 20**

**Tinian wants to hire a new physician for \$130K. PAGE 3**  
**Six NMI students to compete in national MathCourt. PAGE 5**

## 'Further OPA review of govt legal service contracts warranted'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Former representative Tina Sablan said the Office of the Public Auditor's further review and investigation of the govern-

ment's legal service contracts is warranted in at least three areas, including cases of attorneys leaving government agencies and turning around to land private contracts "to do essentially the same work for these agencies."

Sablan and two others filed Open Government Act requests for information related to legal service contracts, billings, documents and related information, many of which were obtained and released to the media since Sunday.

The purpose of the request for information is to bring to light any abuses of public funds or the CNMI procurement process that may have occurred, and take further action as necessary.

See OPA on Page 4

## CUC gets full power to hire, fire

» **Regardless of citizenship**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Acting governor Eloy S. Inos gave the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. the "full power and authority" to hire, retain, and fire staff, further removing requirements that CUC needs to comply with in hiring experts, regardless of citizenship.

CUC needs employees with specialized training but many of these—engineers, sanitarians, financial experts, information technology specialists, other trades technicians and their professional

See CUC on Page 4



### UNKNOWN DITCH

A motorist checks the inside of her car that fell into a three-foot-deep ditch on the shoulder of Beach Road near the entrance of Tasi Tours yesterday afternoon. Also in the photo are police officer Daniel Smith and a security guard. The motorist, who was not injured, was backing up on the shoulder of the road when the car fell into the ditch. Police and some concerned citizens are now wondering who dug up the area, why it was left uncovered, and why there was no caution sign.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

## Fitial OKs qualifying certificate for Sandy Beach Homes

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial approved in late December the qualifying certificate application of Sandy Beach Homes LLC for its affordable housing project, days after the multi-million project official-



Sablan

ly broke ground.

Sandy Beach Homes representative Michael S. Sablan and press secretary Angel A. Demapan separately confirmed that Fitial gave his approval on Dec. 30.

The Sandy Beach Homes Affordable Housing Project aims to develop affordable

housing units on Laly 4 Beach in Chalan Kanoa.

The \$28.2-million project, owned by Triple J Saipan and Ironwood Housing Partners Saipan LLC, involves the construction of two apartment buildings separated by a view corridor.

It will consist of 60 three-bedroom, two-bathroom units measuring 1,400

See FITIAL OKS on Page 4



# BLACKBERRY BLOWOUT

A Very BlackBerry New Year! BlackBerry

Saipan: 582-4ITE (4483) • Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3598 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483) • [www.ite.net](http://www.ite.net)

SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS

\*Terms and conditions apply

BlackBerry  
Curve 2  
**\$199.00\***





## Local

# NMC officials no-show at hearing on Lizama's nomination to board

## » Senate to hold hearings on NMC budget, 2 college bills

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

To the surprise of senators, nobody from the Northern Marianas College showed up at a Senate public hearing yesterday morning on the governor's appointment of former judge Juan T. Lizama to the NMC Board of Regents.

Despite NMC's no-show at the public hearing, Lizama received support from the senators and private individuals who testified in support of his nomination.

When asked for comment, NMC interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera said "officials of the college were not aware of the public hearing that was scheduled for today [yesterday]."

"It should emphasize that NMC's absence from today's public hearing was not deliberate. We were not formally informed of this public hearing. Had we known, NMC would have participated to answer any questions posed or

provide any information needed," Cabrera said.

At the time of the public hearing, senators thought that Cabrera was still off-island on an official trip related to the college's accreditation.

Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan), chair of the Education Committee, said Lizama has the qualifications to serve on the board and make positive contributions to NMC and the CNMI.

Lizama, for his part, said he is thankful for the support of those who testified at the public hearing. They included Indigenous Affairs Office resident executive director Ignacio "Ike" Demapan, Bernardo Cruz, and Ike Cabrera.

Marian Tudela was also supposed to testify in support of Lizama but she came in after the hearing. Nevertheless, she said she's also surprised that nobody from NMC showed up.

The Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations chaired by Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian) is expected to make its recommendations to the full Senate to confirm Lizama. The next Senate session is set for Jan. 27.

Reyes, who is also a member

of the EAGI Committee, said while he's surprised that NMC officials didn't show up, he understands NMC officials are busy with the college's accreditation issue.

He, however, said that traditionally, NMC officials come to the Senate for public hearings on appointees and issues related to the college.

Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), also a member of the EAGI Committee, said she was also hoping that NMC officials would show up.

She said NMC should prioritize having a president to ensure, among other things, that its accreditation is not further jeopardized.

NMC was placed under show-cause status due to non-compliance with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges standards and requirements.

"NMC is without a president for 10 months now. It's like having a ship without a captain," Taimanao said.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial appointed Lizama in December to replace Charles Cepeda on the NMC board.

Lizama served as the associate judge of the CNMI Superior Court in 1998 through 2008 and

has been a special judge at the Superior and Supreme Courts in 1996 through 1998.

If confirmed by the Senate, Lizama will represent Saipan on the board effective immediately through Nov. 13, 2013.

The other members of the current board of regents are chair Maria Paz Younis, Frank Rabauliman, Andrew Orsini, Malua Peter, and Elaine Orilla.

### Closer look at NMC

Reyes' Senate Committee on Education and Taimanao's Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee will jointly hold a public hearing on NMC's budget and two bills related to the college.

The hearing is set for Jan. 25, Tuesday, at 10am in the Senate

chamber on Capital Hill.

NMC's Cabrera said the college is aware of this public hearing "and is diligently preparing for this session with the Senate."

"In fact, the members of the Board of Regents and I are looking forward to meeting with the Senators," Cabrera said in a statement.

Taimanao said the hearing seeks to hear directly from NMC about its personnel needs, its tuition and other fees, collections, tracking of graduates, financial reporting, and its fiscal year 2012 budget.

Reyes, for his part, said his committee wants to seek public input on House Bills 17-39 and 17-93.

HB 17-39 seeks to amend the

Postsecondary Education Act of 1984, to ensure that officers, faculty employees and staff of NMC, excluding the president, are terminated through an adopted grievance proceeding and only "with cause." It also requires a merit personnel system.

This bill also says that the NMC president can be removed at any time by a majority vote of the Board of Regents.

The second bill, HB 17-93, seeks to improve the financial oversight of NMC. It also says the attorney general shall be responsible for providing legal advice to NMC, representing the college in all legal matters, or if it is deemed necessary, designating a legal representative from the private sector.

### VILLAGOMEZ'S, SANTOSES' LAWYER:

## 'US govt argument flawed, spurious'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The lawyer for former lieutenant governor Timothy P. Villagomez, former Commerce Secretary James A. Santos, and his wife, Joaquina V. Santos, has asserted that the U.S. government's argument to oppose

their motion for release pending their appeal is flawed and spurious.

Dennis P. Riordan said the U.S. government essentially maintains that the settlement proceedings (evidentiary hearing) should never have been permitted; that the settlement order was improper and should

be stricken; and that the order, in any event, should be disregarded as "plainly unreasonable."

"On these points, the government's argument is flawed—indeed, it is specious—not least of all because the government failed to seek reconsideration of the orders authorizing the settle-

See US GOVT on Page 4

# 1/2 DISCOUNT STORE

# CLEARANCE SALES

Monday to Friday - 9am to 4pm | Saturday - 9am to 2pm

Located in Middle Road, Gualo Rai • Tel: 235-9700/9600 • Fax: 235-9599



## Man gets 10-year sentence for sexually abusing 9-yr.-old girl

A man who sexually abused a girl when she was just 9 years old was sentenced Tuesday to 10 years in prison.

Ray Anthony Lizama Babauta, 38, was also ordered to pay a \$500 fine plus court costs.

Babauta's jury trial was supposed to start Tuesday but the prosecution and the defense counsel told Superior Court Associate Judge Perry B. Inos that Babauta will instead plead guilty.

The Office of the Attorney General had charged Babauta with sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree, child abuse, and obstructing justice.

Babauta pleaded guilty to sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree as part of a plea bargain. The remaining charges

were dismissed.

Assistant attorney general Peter Prestley told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that they are very happy about the sentence.

"We got him to plead to the maximum allowable sentence permitted by that count. We feel that we couldn't have really done any much better if we had gone through the process of trial," Prestley said.

Assistant public defender Michael Brown served as Babauta's counsel.

Police said Babauta committed the sexual abuse when the mother of the girl was off-island between Aug. 8, 2005 and Sept. 18, 2005.

Police said that Babauta also sexually abused the girl in February 2008 and March 2008 when her mother was off-island again. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

## iConnect 2004 blast suspect still owes victims \$288,383

One of three men convicted in the burning of iConnect's radio room on Mt. Tapochau in 2004 still owes \$288,383 in restitution to the victims as of Dec. 30, 2010.

John Peter Reyes Mendiola, who resides in Guam, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI that 20 percent of his disposable net income per pay period be made to the clerk of the district court for payment toward his restitution.

Mendiola and the U.S. government jointly asked the court to issue a writ of continuing garnishment on wages paid to him (20 percent) until his restitution is paid in full.

Dickerson & Quinn is named as the garnishee.

Mendiola and co-defendant

Andrew K. Quiambao were sentenced in 2004 to 37 months in prison. Marvin Leon Guerrero, who was tagged by the FBI as the masterminded, was ordered to serve five years in prison.

They were ordered to pay restitution jointly for \$567,396.

Mendiola has already served his sentence. On Dec. 28, 2009, his supervised release expired. On Feb. 5, 2010, the court discharged him from supervised release.

Court records show that on Feb. 7, 2004, Mendiola and Quiambao, using gasoline, set fire to the iConnect facility that, together with FBI and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration equipment, was destroyed in the explosion that followed. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

## Tinian wants to hire a new physician for \$130K

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Tinian Health Center may soon have a permanent physician if the Office of Management and Budget approves the hiring of Dr. Stephan Lebamoff for \$130,000 per year.

The Tinian Municipality and the Fitial administration separately confirmed Lebamoff's expected hiring, saying his contract is now being routed on Capital Hill.

"I can confirm that his contract is still pending review at OMB," said press secretary Angel Demapan yesterday.

Although the Tinian Health Center functions under the um-

brella of Department of Public Health, the salaries of its personnel are sourced from the municipality's revenue.

Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz said they want to hire Lebamoff to replace Dr. Priyawathan Wijay, whose contract was not renewed last year.

He disclosed that Lebamoff used to work at the Tinian Health Center during the administration of former mayor Francisco Borja and in the early part of former mayor Jose San Nicolas' term.

"He wants to come back and he loves Tinian. We want to give him another try. We know that not many people want to work at Tinian Health Center or the

CNMI, not only because of restrictions but also due to lack of supplies and low salary. ... This guy loves Tinian and we will give him a shot," Dela Cruz said.

If OMB approves the recommended contract, Lebamoff is expected to be onboard in the next month or two.

According to the Vitals.com website (www.vitals.com), Lebamoff's specialty is family medicine. He is currently affiliated with the Kahuku Hospital in Hawaii and was educated at the Indiana University School of Medicine. The website states that Lebamoff has 24 years of related experience.

Dela Cruz said that Lebamoff's proposed contract is

for one year, with an option to renew for another year. Once contract details are ironed out, the municipality will expedite the process and will pay for his fare to the island, he added.

Tinian Health Center has been criticized for not having a permanent doctor and many residents have complained of the lack of medical services at the center. These claims have been denied numerous times by the hospital administration, saying a physician assistant and midlevel health provider also provide treatment to Tinian patients.

The center has a total of 15 nurses. It accommodates about 50 patients daily during regular working hours.

## Court denies ex-cop's motion to dismiss 1 of 4 charges

The federal court yesterday denied a former police officer's motion to dismiss one of the four charges filed against him.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Michael W. Mosman denied Florencio Q. Richards' motion to dismiss count 4 (possession of a firearm by a prohibited person) of the indictment.

Mosman will issue a written decision.

The judge proceeded with the pretrial conference in the case. After the hearing, he remanded Richards back into the custody of the U.S. Marshal.

Richards' lawyer, Michael Evangelista, had argued that count 4 is defective and fails to state an offense.

"Count 4 is invalid on its face as it does not state facts sufficient

to demonstrate that Richards is an 'unlawful user' of a controlled substance, which is a necessary or compulsory element of the alleged offense," Evangelista said.

He pointed out that the indictment is improper, given that the U.S. government has not pleaded any facts or given any information to establish that Richards is an "unlawful user" as defined in the Ninth Circuit.

Richards is also facing three other charges: drug conspiracy, distribution of a controlled sub-

stance, and carrying a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime.

In opposing the motion, assistant U.S. Attorney James Benedetto asserted that the plain language of the law and count 4 of the indictment placed Richards on notice that he is accused of having possessed a firearm while being a user of illegal drugs.

Benedetto said the U.S. government will have to prove that the defendant's drug use was

regular, sustained, and temporally proximate to his possession of the firearm.

"But the government is not required to include the specific instances of his drug use in the charging instrument," he said.

According to the indictment, Richards and others conspired sometime in July 2010 to July 15, 2010 to distribute "ice" in exchange for money and other things of value. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

### Royal Thai Massage

#### Special Promotion

Everyday - 10am - 8pm  
**\$1900 SINGLE \$3000 COUPLE**  
per hour of full body massage

Open daily 10am - 11pm  
Tel: 234-2521

1st Floor Saipan Gold Beach Hotel  
(Beach Road, Garapan)  
Gift Certificates are available.  
Ideal gift for Valentine's Day.

### ARMATECH

PABX Telephone System  
& Key System Unit Installer/  
Programmer. Please call us  
for free estimate.

Tel: 234-8895 • Mobile: 287-5525/898-5943

### Glushko's Academy

#### Latin Ballroom Dance Classes

Classes conducted under supervision of  
**World Class Choreographer**  
from Russia.

For ages 10-16 yr. old-Mon & Fri 5:30pm-7:00pm.  
Adults - Tue & Thur 6:30pm-8:00pm.

Tuition - \$80 per month for Group lessons.

For more information call: 483-6271 or  
e-mail: glushkosacademy@yahoo.com

## IMMIGRATION LAW

**Bruce L. Mailman**  
**Maya B. Kara**

Available services include

- U.S. Permanent Residence (Green Card)
- U.S. Naturalization/Citizenship
- Employment Based U.S. Visas (H1B, H2B, L1, EB1, E1, E2, and others)
- Status Clarification

**Call for Appointment**  
**(670) 233-0081**

Law Offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC  
Corner of Beach Road and Cpl.  
Derence Jack R., Garapan, Saipan

## new wave dental

### !! Promotion!!

**\$35**

ADULT CLEANING-ONE HOUR WITH  
ULTRASONIC SCALER  
AND POLISH

**\$59**

**BETEL-BUSTERS**  
1 1/2 HOURS TO MAKE YOUR  
SMILE SPARKLE AGAIN!

**Now through February 15th only!**

MIDDLE ROAD, ACROSS SUGAR KING PARK  
**233-3300**

## DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on **January 20**, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before **January 20**.

**THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE\*.**

\*You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than **January 20**. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service, Please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or Visit any IT&E CS Center nearest you.



To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:  
SHELL Service Stations - up to 6:00pm  
Chalan Lamlau/Tinian/Ita Office - up to 4:30pm  
TSL Plaza - up to 6:00pm  
Online payment - up to 9:00pm



# Bill requiring degrees among NMC regents up for Fitial's action

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A bill requiring higher educational qualifications for members of the Northern Marianas College's Board of Regents, including requiring at least three of its seven members to have at least a master's degree, now heads to the governor for action.

Once signed into law, this measure would also require two other board regents to have at least a bachelor's degree.

The remaining two members will be required to have an associate of arts degree or comparable experience, the last phrase drawing debate

among House members.

However, because the House could only approve or reject the Senate's version of House Bill 17-59, members decided to vote on it in its latest form.

HB 17-59, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 2 passed the House by a vote of 14-2 on Thursday. Only Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) and Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan) didn't vote for it.

Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan), chairman of the Education Committee, said yesterday that the measure now goes to the governor for action.

Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan), in an interview yesterday, said

NMC board met with him recently to express their reservations about the bill's educational requirements.

He said as compromise, the Senate reduced the number of board regents who are required to have a master's degree—from four to only three. Senators also lowered the number of members required to have a bachelor's degree—from three to two.

Reyes also asked yesterday former judge Juan T. Lizama, the governor's appointee to the NMC board of regents, whether he supports this bill. Lizama, during the public hearing on his nomination, said the board should welcome diversity.

HB 17-59 or The Second Postsecondary Education Amendment Act of 2010, introduced by Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), says that the qualifi-

cations for the members of the NMC board needs to be modified because of the "current low qualifications of levels of educational background."

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### KagHS PTSA meeting today

Kagman High School will have a PTSA meeting today, Jan. 20, 6pm at the school's cafeteria. Among the topics is the school's Beautification Project, Phase I and Electronic Reporting. (PR)

### MHS January-February schedule

Jan. 24 to 28: Assessment Week for

Standard Based Assessment (end of course for Algebra 1, 2, Geometry, Environment Science, Biology, Chemistry, NMI, US Government/Economics) and final exams (Don't be absent).

Feb. 3: 2nd Quarter Report Card Day/Open House from 3:30pm to 6:30pm at MHS (Visit each classroom teacher). (PR)

## CUC

From Page 1

managers—are non-U.S. citizens.

"There are many non-U.S. citizens whom CUC needs to retain on technical and professional contracts. Without these positions filled, CUC's operations would be severely compromised," Inos said.

Giving CUC the full power to hire and fire was the major change in the acting governor's Jan. 18 extension of the emergency declaration for CUC.

CUC now enters its 29th month under a state of emergency.

Under Inos' latest order, CUC is no longer required to provide any attendant forms, advertising, or other administrative or regulatory requirements which the CNMI Department of Labor would otherwise require under the Nonresident Workers' Act.

The acting governor said that CNMI Labor "shall neither impede, terminate nor change the employment authorization of any foreign national employed, or sought to be employed, by CUC on the basis of his or her status as a foreign national or on the basis of the way the

hiring was accomplished by CUC."

However, CNMI Labor's power and responsibility for alien registration, health or similar tracking documentation remains and are "unaffected by this directive."

Labor ordinarily requires these from an employer when a foreign national is employed in the CNMI.

Without the lifting of a legislative restriction on hiring foreign workers for government agencies like CUC, Inos said CUC would be forced to hire only U.S. citizens and local residents.

But he said there are simply not enough trained and technically proficient individuals on island who can fill all of the positions CUC needs.

"And CUC has found that the expense and uncertainty involved in hiring individuals from the mainland cannot be justified to its customers, the people of the CNMI, when there are foreign nationals present in the CNMI who are qualified to do the work CUC needs. It is obvious that the hiring authority must be continued," Inos said.

Lawmakers received copies of the latest CUC emergency declaration yesterday. Some of them said they have yet to read the full report.

### Fuel shortage, stock swap

Inos also mentioned in his executive order that because of the financial crisis, CUC faces the possibility of being unable to buy fuel.

Inos said this is due in part to the government's inability to pay its utility bills.

The current arrears are 90 to 120 days.

CUC has also been unable to borrow money to run its operations due to its poor financial condition and the existence on its books of a liability to the Commonwealth Development Authority of some \$145 million.

"This situation was remedied with a stock swap, authorized by the executive director, so that CUC could move forward financially," Inos said.

### Attempts

The acting governor said CUC has made ongoing attempts to train its own current employees to move up to more advanced technical positions.

This is done by gaining certifications necessary through classes and training for taking the tests required, but Inos said "so far, CUC has not met with success."

## OPA

From Page 1

Sablan said another that warrants further OPA review and probe is that of private attorneys "securing significant contingency fees from the government."

Based on data she has obtained so far, the CNMI government has been paying private attorneys up to \$200 an hour—much more than what it pays attorneys at the Office of the Attorney General and other government agencies, who are mostly paid \$23 to \$38 an hour.

Among the documents she was able to obtain was an August 2010 sole-source legal service contract of \$54,000 a year or \$4,500 a month to former assistant attorney general Brad-dock Huesman.

Huesman was assistant AG assigned to DPL when the department was justifying with the Division of Procurement and Supply in July 2010 the need for a sole-source contract with Huesman as general in-house counsel. Huesman has since left the OAG. The DPL secretary had said he's very satisfied with the service that Huesman has been providing DPL.

As of yesterday, Sablan has yet to file with OPA a formal request for review and investigation.

Sablan said further OPA review and investigation is also warranted on the

issue of outside counsel representing Attorney General Ed Buckingham "in the criminal and ethical investigations against him."

She said taxpayers should not be paying for Buckingham's legal representation—"not at \$200 an hour, not at any rate, when the matter involves investigations of his own alleged violations of CNMI law."

She described this as "one of the most egregious examples of abuse of public funds that we have seen so far."

OPA has yet to make public the results of its investigation on the AG, in connection with his alleged hosting of a party for a delegate candidate at the governor's private residence in Gualo Rai last year.

The governor said he had responded to OPA's letter on the report, but said he could not provide a copy to the media because OPA marked the report "confidential."

Press secretary Angel Demapan said "the governor may have further public comment on this matter after he is back on-island."

### 'Interesting experience'

Sablan, who served on the 16th Legislature and has championed government transparency and accountability, said her requests for information on government legal service contracts have been an "interesting experience."

She said most government execu-

tives, with the exception of the governor and the acting secretary of Finance, have responded fairly quickly to the requests, "but in many cases their billings are over-redacted so that we can't even see in a general sense what matters outside counsel are working on, an issue that will likely be challenged."

Sablan said some agencies have failed to provide procurement documents or billing records as requested, or any written explanation of their redactions as required by law.

"At least one agency has tried to charge a fee for redactions, and not only for the cost of copying, which we have also challenged. Another agency is simply overcharging for copies, at \$1 a page, when all other government agencies charge 25-50 cents a page," she said.

She has also noted gaps in records that were produced—missing invoices, missing pages in contracts, among other things, which will be followed up on.

"One agency director wanted to know why I wanted the information, and said that he might be more cooperative if I would explain that to him—which, of course, is a bit wrong-headed, considering that we are talking about public funds, public agencies, and the obligation of all public officials to comply with the Open Government Act. Citizens have the right to know how public funds are being spent," she added.

## FITIAL OKS

From Page 1

sq. ft. each on the six-floor buildings with above ground level parking. The project will also feature energy-efficient design and materials, including a solar water heater.

Demapan told *Saipan Tribune* that the governor believes that the project will realize economic benefits for the CNMI.

"In addition to low-income residents, the project and its multiplier and spin-off effects will create a wide range of business opportunities for local providers of goods and services, while also creating jobs," he said via email.

Demapan added that the Fitial administration will continue to take necessary steps to further attract small- and large-scale investors to consider doing business on the islands.

"We're very happy about the governor's approval. It certainly helps the project move forward as planned," said Sablan in a phone interview yesterday.

According to Sablan, Sandy Beach

Homes only applied for a qualifying certificate relief for a one-year period or during the construction phase of the project.

"We only sought for a QC relief for the excise tax and developer's tax. We will pay all other taxes during and after the project," said Sablan.

He explained that they only asked for limited relief since they also want to help the local economy and bring money to government coffers. "We're glad that [the Commonwealth Development Authority] saw the benefits of this project and recommended its approval to the governor," he added.

According to Sablan, the application approval sends a positive message to all existing and potential business owners and investors in the Commonwealth "It sends a message that the CNMI government and agencies welcome all investors and will do what they can to help them," he said.

Sablan said the project is on schedule, with vertical construction to begin sometime next month.

"Our plan is to meet the [December 2011 completion deadline]," added Sablan.

## US GOVT

From Page 2

ment process and substantively settling the record," Riordan said.

The federal court having already issued an order in favor of his clients on their Sixth Amendment right to a public trial, Riordan said the government will likely lose on appeal unless it can convince the Ninth Circuit that the federal court erred.

Riordan said the federal court should order his clients' release because it is fairly debatable whether their Sixth Amendment claim may succeed on appeal.

Villagomez and the Santos asked the federal court to release them on bail pending the conclusion of their appeal in the Ninth Circuit.

The three assert that they don't pose a risk of flight or danger to the public if released pending appeal. They also argued that relevant precedent requires that they present a "fairly debatable" appellate question in order to secure a release order under the statute.

Villagomez and the Santos couple are now serving their sentences in federal prison after a jury found them guilty of all charges relating to a scheme to defraud the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. through needless purchases of a de-scaling chemical called Rydlyme.



# Six NMI students to compete in national MathCourt tilt

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Six students earned spots for a trip to Kansas City, Missouri, this year after winning the regional MathCourt competition

## Borrowers want Fund to reduce 4.79 pct. home loan interest rate

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund said that a significant number of its Member Home Loan Program borrowers have sought its assistance, not to defer payments but to have their loan interest reduced.

Among these borrowers is Oscar Camacho, who spoke with the board at its meeting, saying there's no other way to help borrowers in these difficult economic times but to reduce the program's interest rates.

According to Fund administrator Richard Villagomez, the program has 108 borrowers, of which 31 percent were delinquent as of last week.

Records show that the loan program has an aging receivable of \$247,000—about 4.42 percent of the \$5.5 million the Fund has invested in the program.

The board suspended the program at its December meeting due to the high delinquency rate of 39 percent. The suspension stops the Fund from entertaining new applicants for the program.

The Fund said it also failed to generate expected revenues from the program because collection efforts were hampered by the current economic situation.

During Friday's board meeting, Villagomez pointed out that the aging receivables are still up for collection and could not be classified as "toxic" accounts.

He also reported that the \$1 million reserved fund for the program is still intact and could be used to pay for the Fund's other obligations to minimize the drawdown on its investment portfolio.

## Man who stole Louis Vuitton bag gets 14-day prison term

A man who stole a Louis Vuitton bag from a car was sentenced yesterday to 14 days in prison.

Superior Court Associate Judge Perry B. Inos sentenced Benjamin Lee Rios to a year in prison, all suspended except for 14 days, for the theft, with credit for the two days he had already served in jail. The remaining burglary charge was dismissed.

Rios will start serving the remaining 12 days of his sentence on Feb. 11, 2011.

He was placed on probation for one year and ordered to pay a \$100 fine plus \$250 restitution to the female victim. Rios was

also ordered to pay court costs and probation fees.

Rios and counsel, assistant public defender Richard Miller, entered a plea agreement with the government. Inos said he reluctantly accepted the plea agreement. He did not elaborate. Rios has a pending assault and battery case. The Office of the Attorney General charged Rios with burglary and theft for unlawfully entering the vehicle of Chang Ru Meng Backman and stealing a brown Louis Vuitton bag on Saipan on Dec. 12, 2009. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Team CNMI is composed of Hyun Bin Hwang of Calvary Christian Academy; Hanbert Jeong, Manatsu Omori, and

that saw the participation of over 100 students from public and private schools. Camacho told the board that borrowers are not asking for "debt forgiveness," just some sort of assistance via the reduction of interest rates. He compared the program's existing interest rate to that of other agencies and programs that provide similar terms.

"Things are hard. I am not asking for any forgiveness of my debt...but even the deferment of payment doesn't really help borrowers if the interest is still going to accrue," he told the board.

He said the program's interest rate of 4.79 percent is way higher than the 2 percent the Commonwealth Development Authority charges and the 2 percent housing loan interest of the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. with private banks. He said some housing programs even forgive accrued interest or set aside interest during a certain period of time.

He said lowering the interest rate will not harm the Fund's portfolio and will in fact save its investments in the program.

"If you see that a lot of us [borrowers] are not really paying, then there's a high risk. And if the interest continues to accrue at 8.5 to 9 percent, we're not going to be able to catch up, because interest alone will kill us," said Camacho. Board chair Sixto Igisomar instructed the Fund management to formulate alternatives that would help borrowers.

"We're actually in the process of identifying options that will be workable for borrowers and the Fund. Obviously, the 7.5 percent actuarial rate is what we have to deal with the banks. But we're looking at all the requests from borrowers," said Villagomez.

Also excited to represent the Commonwealth are Han Byol Yu and Hanbert Jeong, who were also part of Team CNMI that competed in Las Vegas

last year. They said the trip creates not just worthwhile experiences but a chance to compete with young mathletes from all over the U.S.

"This will open our minds to the exciting world of mathematics, will help improve ourselves, and will bring us more opportunities for our future," said Jeong.

"This is also a great venue where we can promote and introduce our islands," added Yu. According to Dora Miura, 6-12 grade MathCourt coordinator, the students are scheduled to leave in May for the League Championship on May 13.

Five of the six team members are returning students from last year's team. This is the second time the

CNMI will be sending a group of students to the math competition. The CNMI first sent delegates to the Las Vegas MathCourt.

"Due to financial issues, we are not sending the students to the same competition as last year, which required 15 students per team. This year's competition only requires six," said Miura.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that the team meets weekly in preparation for the League Championship. Miura said the team is learning strategies for problem solving; how to see and solve math problems creatively; new math topics; and team building.


Since this will be the CNMI's first participation in the League Championship, she said it is difficult to form any expectations.

"I know that they want to improve. However, once again, this is a different meet from last year's. I expect the team to do their best and represent the CNMI well when they are in Missouri. They are a great bunch of students who are working hard to represent the CNMI and themselves in the best possible manner," she said.

The regional MathCourt competition was held at Saipan Southern High School on Dec. 18.


Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan yesterday congratulated Miura for a great year with MathCourt.

"Best wishes as the students move to the next round of competitions," she said.




# BLOWOUT

## A Very BlackBerry New Year!




**BlackBerry Curve 2**  
**\$199.00\***



**BlackBerry Tour**  
**\$349.00\***

**We Got You Covered CNMI!**



**No CDMA Service - No Problem**


**Offer valid Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> thru Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Experience the CNMI's #1 Wireless Provider  
and Keep Your CDMA Number!**

\*Some conditions apply • Must sign up for 2 year agreement on a 600 minute plan or higher. Must sign up for BlackBerry Data Plan at \$39.95 a month (first 3 months BlackBerry data for ONLY \$19.95 a month) • Single Plan ONLY • New Accounts ONLY

BlackBerry®, RIM®, Research In Motion®, SureType™, SurePress™ and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world.

**Saipan: 682-4ITE [4483] • Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE [4483] • [www.ite.net](http://www.ite.net)**



*Life in Motion*



# 2011 MMAC signs up another title sponsor



By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

After getting its first title sponsor over a week ago, the 2011 Marianas March Against Cancer Committee got its second title sponsorship yesterday afternoon.

Representatives of the St. Jude Renal Care Facility and Saipan Health Clinic presented a check worth \$3,000 to

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Overall committee chair Dave B. Guerrero, fourth from right, and public relations committee chair Chris A. Concepcion, left, accept checks worth \$3,000 from St. Jude Renal Care Facility and Saipan Health Clinic representatives yesterday afternoon.

overall committee chair Dave B. Guerrero and public relations committee chair Chris A. Concepcion.

The title sponsorship, the most prestigious level of sponsorship for the MMAC, is given to establishments that donate \$3,000 or more in cash or goods and services.

"The staff and management elected to increase their participation in the Marianas March Against Cancer because we believe in their objectives and future insights," said the latest title sponsor in a statement.

Saipan Health Clinic nurse Selma Salas said this will be the second year that Team St. Jude Renal Care/Saipan Health Clinic will participate in the annual fundraising event, scheduled every May.

Team captain Natalie Reyes told *Saipan Tribune* that last year the team joined at the last minute and only had about three weeks to prepare for the event.

"This time, we joined early so we'll have more time to prepare. We're hoping that we'll raise more than we did last year," said Reyes.

Salas said that over 40 staff of the two clinics will participate in the march and have already started planning their fundraising activities.

Committee chair Dave B.

Guerrero said he is delighted that they already got their second title sponsor within the month. "I'm so happy because it's working out as the committee planned it." He hopes to have about three more title sponsors before the month ends.

Last Jan. 11, TakeCare/FHP became the first title sponsor after donating \$3,500 cash.

Despite the declining CNMI economy, public relations committee chair Chris A. Concepcion remains positive that they will be able to raise more money this year.

"Since all funds to be donated for MMAC are tax deductible, we rely on all companies—big or small—to contribute to this event. We hope we can get support not only through sponsors but also through volunteers," he added.

Marianas March Against Cancer is the largest fundraising activity of the Commonwealth Cancer Association. It gives everyone an opportunity to celebrate cancer survivors, remember those who have lost the fight, and raise money and awareness to fight the battle against the disease.

For more information or to become a sponsor for the MMAC, contact Dave Guerrero at 989-2496 or CCA at 682-0050.

Cancer survivors and families who wish to participate in the 2011 MMAC may call Nora Sablan at 235-0994 Ext. 5820.

## DUE TO HIGH POWER, WATER RATES

### Public schools asked to strictly monitor energy consumption

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Energy monitors will be tracking the energy consumption of each public school in the CNMI in light of the recent power rate increase.

The objective, said Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, is to save in both water and power consumptions, which usually take a big bite out of the Public School System's operations budget.

Sablan disclosed that PSS is billed over \$200,000 every month for all schools' power and water use.

"Because we have 20 schools, we're the largest organization and the bills that come in amount to \$200,000 every month. Our schools have to cut this down...because this is still expensive, especially water, and I just wish that something can be done. We're just grateful that we have the state fiscal stabilization fund that helps us not only pay for our utilities but to repair our plumbing and electrical problems as well," Sablan said.

In anticipation of further utility rate increases, Sablan said that PSS will be working to make all its campuses run on alternative energy.

"PSS has been very mindful about energy savings and conservation efforts and reduc-

ing all the costs associated with operation of schools. So besides the schools' energy monitors, with repairs and modernization project in our schools, we're installing energy efficient air-conditioning units, energy efficient light fixtures, and doors and windows that are energy efficient too," she said.

PSS was approved last year to get a \$6.4 million energy grant from the federal government to pioneer renewable energy on the islands.

"This \$6.4 million will be used to install solar panels and wind turbines in our schools to be used as a way to begin this effort," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Saipan Southern High School and Koblerville Elementary School would be the first schools that may be taken out of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. grid soon.

Sablan commended former SSHS administrators Peter Le'au and Craig Garrison for initiating the concept in the school.

Once operational, PSS will be the first to use solar panel energy in the Commonwealth and in the Pacific region.

"I am very grateful and happy for the staff and the Board of Education for envisioning that we cannot continue to rely on these power uncertainties," she added.

## Watch Out!

For the next Poker event here in . . .

### The Home of Poker in the Pacific



Enjoy these games in our latest Electronic Gaming Machines!

"Bet with your head, and not over it"

For further information, please call VIP Services at (670) 328-2285

SAIPAN / TINIAN CHARTER AVAILABLE 24/7  
DISCOVERY FLIGHTS • FLIGHT SEEING TOURS  
For inquiries please call (670) 433-9998 / (671) 898-3456  
or visit [www.starmarianasair.com](http://www.starmarianasair.com)



**GOLD OVER \$1,300 AN OUNCE ★ SILVER OVER \$30 AN OUNCE**

# BUYING!

**GOLD ★ SILVER ★ PLATINUM**

## 3 ISLAND LOCATIONS!

**January 17th thru January 22nd - 9am to 4pm all days**

Start The  
**NEW YEAR**  
with  
**CASH!**

### HYATT REGENCY SAIPAN

**THURSDAY JAN. 20<sup>TH</sup> ★ FRIDAY JAN. 21<sup>ST</sup> ★ SATURDAY JAN. 22<sup>ND</sup>**

Coral Reef Avenue in Garapan • Free Parking • Free Appraisal • On Site Security

#### ROTA RESORT & COUNTRY CLUB

**MONDAY JANUARY 17TH**

Free Appraisal • On Site Security

#### TINIAN DYNASTY HOTEL & CASINO

**WEDNESDAY JANUARY 19TH**

Free Appraisal • On Site Security

**9AM TO 4PM  
ALL DAYS**

**CASH ON THE SPOT FOR YOUR GOLD!**  
**WE WANT THE 10K - 12K - 14K - 16K - 18K - 22K - 24K THAT YOU DON'T!**

**AS SEEN ON  
TV & RADIO**

- |   |   |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Bracelets</b> ..... up to \$2,000   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Charm Bracelets</b> ... up to \$2,000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Broken Necklaces</b> up to \$1,500     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Service Awards</b> ..... up to \$500  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Necklaces</b> ..... up to \$2,500   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Charms</b> ..... up to \$300          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Pens</b> ..... up to \$400             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Broken Bracelets</b> .. up to \$1,500 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Rings</b> ..... up to \$500         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold School Rings</b> ..... up to \$500    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Watches</b> ..... up to \$1,750        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Cuff Links</b> ..... up to \$300      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Watch Cases</b> ..... up to \$750   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Chains</b> ..... up to \$1,000        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Nugget Rings</b> ..... up to \$800     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Broken Rings</b> ..... up to \$500    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Watch Bands</b> ..... up to \$1,000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Earrings</b> ..... up to \$200        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Pocket Watches</b> ..... up to \$750   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Brooches</b> ..... up to \$1,000      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Wedding Bands</b> ..... up to \$350 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Dental Gold</b> ..... up to \$900          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Link Bracelets</b> ..... up to \$2,500 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Coins</b> ..... up to \$15,000        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Bangles</b> ..... up to \$850       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Scrap</b> ..... up to \$1,250         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Broken Chains</b> ..... up to \$1,000  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Bars</b> ..... up to \$15,000         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Pendants</b> ..... up to \$300      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Nugget Bracelets</b> .. up to \$2,500 |  |   |

**WE ALSO BUY ALL STERLING SILVER AND PLATINUM JEWELRY. IF YOUR ITEMS AREN'T LISTED BRING THEM ALONG FOR A FREE APPRAISAL AND INSTANT CASH OFFER.**

## Gold Coins

### Krugerrands, Eagles, Maple Leafs

With Gold up over 400% the past decade your coins could be worth a fortune. We'll appraise your Gold coins and PAY YOU CASH!

<b>\$1.00 U.S. Gold</b> .....	<b>\$75 to \$3,500</b>
<b>\$2.50 U.S. Gold</b> .....	<b>\$125 to \$5,500</b>
<b>\$3.00 U.S. Gold</b> .....	<b>\$250 to \$5,750</b>
<b>\$5.00 U.S. Gold</b> .....	<b>\$250 to \$7,500</b>
<b>\$10.00 U.S. Gold</b> .....	<b>\$500 to \$11,500</b>
<b>\$20.00 U.S. Gold</b> .....	<b>\$1,000 to \$15,000</b>

Minimum prices with gold spot at \$1300. Prices subject to daily fluctuation. Bullion and foreign gold wanted. No collection too large or small. Free evaluation. No-obligation cash offer!



### STERLING FLATWARE

We pay top dollar for sterling flatware sets, serving pieces and miscellaneous flatware. Monogrammed sterling ok.

**\$200 - \$2,500**



## Silver Coins

### Morgans, Peace Dollars & more...

Are those stacks of old silver coins weighing you down? Bring them to our event today and let us pay you our highest cash price!

### SILVER DOLLARS, SILVER HALVES, SILVER QUARTERS, SILVER DIMES

<b>\$1.00 Silver</b> (1935 & earlier) ..	<b>\$12 up to \$12,500</b>
<b>50C Silver</b> (1964 & earlier).....	<b>\$5 up to \$2,000</b>
<b>25C Silver</b> (1964 & earlier).....	<b>\$2.50 up to \$750</b>
<b>10C Silver</b> (1964 & earlier).....	<b>\$1 up to \$250</b>

Max prices for rare coins in Mint State condition.

**DON'T MAIL YOUR VALUABLES AWAY TO SOME OUT OF STATE COMPANY.  
SELL YOUR GOLD LOCALLY FOR MORE CASH WITH A COMPANY YOU CAN TRUST.**

BRING THIS AD AND RECEIVE A  
BONUS OF UP TO

**10% MORE**

ON SCRAP GOLD & SILVER

**NEW ★ OLD ★ BROKEN  
WE BUY ALL!**

**YOUR UNWANTED JEWELRY  
COULD BE WORTH \$1,000's!**

REFINER BONUS CASH!

**\$50 MORE**

WHEN YOU SELL 50 GRAMS  
OR MORE OF SCRAP GOLD

**IMMEDIATE CASH PAID!  
INSTANT APPRAISAL!**

**SECURITY PROVIDED BY PRIVATE  
ENFORCEMENT SERVICES**

**SECURED GOLD BUYERS**

**(888) 549-2878 ★ SecuredGoldBuyers.com**

**ATTENTION: WE ARE A STATE LICENSED BUYER**

Secured Gold Buyers is an  
**Accredited Member of the  
BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU**





# NMC presidential search panel convenes



NMC

The new members of the NMC Presidential Search Committee, led by PSC chair Andrew Orsini, second from right, met at the college on Tuesday.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID  
ITB11-DOF/CSAP-037**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: FEBRUARY 02, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**“LEASE OF AN OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE  
SPACE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE -  
DIVISION OF CUSTOMS SERVICE”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 8652 (A) - (D).

/s/ ASUNCION S. AGULATO  
ACTING SECRETARY OF FINANCE

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S

Members of the new Northern Marianas College Presidential Search Committee convened Tuesday to begin their work toward helping select the next president of the college.

The new members who were appointed by the NMC Board of Regents include Andrew Orsini, NMC regent and PSC chair; David Sablan, president, Century Insurance Co.; John Oliver Gonzales, executive director, Joeten-Kiyu Library; Jesus Elameto, retiree and former PSS administrator; Juan-

ita Mendiola, former Tinian Municipal Council chairperson; Barbara Merfalen, dean, NMC Academic Programs and Services; and Antonio Tipples, president, Associated Students of NMC.

The committee is tasked with helping screen candidates by interviewing them and recommending a short list to the Board of Regents, who will make the final selection.

During the meeting, Orsini thanked each of the members for agreeing to take on the important responsibilities of deciding whose names will be transmitted to the NMC Board of Regents. He also recognized the work placed forth by the previous search committee members.

Orsini emphasized that the search process must move forward with integrity and transparency.

During the meeting, the members voted to appoint John Gonzales to become committee co-chair. The members also formed two subcommittees: a Public Relations Committee and an Interview Committee.

The search process will be aided by the Association of Community College Trustees, a national nonprofit educational association that has assisted numerous other colleges and universities with their search for a CEO/president. The ACCT has been receiving applicants to the vacancy announcement that has been published in various media outlets.

The committee anticipates that the ACCT will be transmitting the names of applicants sometime this week. The deadline set for the submission of applications was Jan. 15, 2011.

For updates on the search, visit [www.nmcnet.edu](http://www.nmcnet.edu). (NMC)

Bertina E. Limuk  
P.O. Box 501653  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone: 235-7553

*pro se*

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER  
OF THE PETITION  
FOR APPOINTMENT  
OF GENERAL  
GUARDIANSHIP FOR:

TAYLOR JOHN HADDY  
and MORGAN A.  
ROBERT,  
A Minor Children

By:

BERTINA E. LIMUK  
Petitioner

FCD GU  
CIVIL  
ACTION  
NO.  
11-0009

AMENDED  
NOTICE  
OF  
HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on Monday, January 31, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom 202A, before Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja.

Dated this 18th day of January, 2011.

Bernadita Sablan  
Clerk of Court

/s/  
By: Deputy Clerk of Court

## Flashback

### A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Jan. 20, 1999

#### CPA pledges dialog on port fees hike

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has assured the International Air Transport Association that it will consult various airlines and give them adequate notices before implementing the new airport rates. In a letter to Lim Liang Poh, assistant director/user charges, the ports authority said it will continue to work closely with the airlines to promote the Northern Marianas as a tourist destination. “It is well over 10 years since CPA last raised its rates and we truly wish increasing our fees is not necessary. Unfortunately, our dilemma is now having a smaller enplanement with higher financial obligations,” said Carlos H. Salas, executive director.

#### Size of foreign labor shrinks

The number of nonresident workers in the Northern Marianas has declined 5 percent from January to September in 1998 to 24,435 compared to the same period the previous year, marking the first drop in CNMI’s history since it opened its doors to guest employees. A report from the Governor’s Office made available to the press said the figures were based on the entry permits issued by the Department of Labor and Immigration. DOLI attributed the decrease to the implementation of Public Law 11-6, which froze indefinitely the hiring of guest workers, the backbone of the commonwealth’s work force but whose growing presence on the islands has worried the federal government.

Jan. 20, 2000

#### CNMI bans cyanide fishing

The Northern Marianas government has banned the use of cyanide in harvesting fish and other marine resources in its waters after Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio signed a landmark law declaring the practice a criminal offense. Under Public Law 11-112, cyanide fishing carries jail sentence of up to three years, a fine of not less than \$10,000 or both, for every violation. The Division of Fish and Wildlife is tasked to enforce the ban. Mr. Tenorio urged lawmakers to widen the ban to include other chemicals and methods used by fishermen in exploiting the island’s rich fish stock and other marine life.

#### Fate of new power project still uncertain

Despite a meeting yesterday between the governor, lawmakers and officials of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, the fate of the controversial Saipan power project remains uncertain. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio, who has kept his hands off the disputes surrounding its procurement, said he was at the meeting to listen some of the concerns raised by members of the Legislature regarding CUC’s handling of the project. “It’s been my position that the board will seriously look into the needs for utilities in the future because we don’t want to wait here where we are left with no choice and having power outage,” he told reporters after the meeting.

Jan. 20, 2003

#### PSS expects more funding for Reading

The Public School System is expecting to get an increase in federal funding for the Reading First program next school year following the recent pronouncement of President Bush to further boost the budget for the initiative in FY 2004. “We’d pretty much feel the impact here also. If they increase the national funding, then certainly, insular areas budget would also increase,” PSS federal program officer Bill Matson said. He said, though, that the proposed increase by the President has yet to be approved by the U.S. Congress. Bush, in celebrating the one-year anniversary of the signing of the No Child Left Behind Act, had announced that the FY 2004 budget proposal increases funding for the Reading First and Early Reading First programs by \$75 million over last year, bringing the total to over \$1.1 billion.

#### DPH urges insurance firms: Tie up with Manila hospitals

Indicating its lack of capability at this time to guarantee the payment of CNMI referral patients in Manila, the Department of Public Health has asked insurance companies, including the Group Health and Life Insurance program, to establish relationships with Manila-based hospitals. “In order for us to start doing business with Asian Hospital, it’s best for insurance agencies—even GHLI—to have a relationship-like agreement. Otherwise, patients will be charged the full amount when they go there,” said DPH Secretary James U. Hofschneider.

**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**  
 Office of the Executive Director

**INVITATION FOR BID  
CUC-IFB-11-019**

**WATER DIVISION ANNUAL SUPPLY OF PUMPS & MOTORS, ASSEMBLIES & PARTS**

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply & Delivery of Water Division Annual Supply of Pumps & Motors, Assemblies and Parts for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The bid package may be picked-up at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

**One (1) original and Seven (7) copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-11-019, Water Division Annual Supply of Pumps & Motors, Assemblies & Parts”, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **February 17, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials, based on bids for “Commodity Groups”.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid or supply under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.

The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. Bid award per commodity group will be given to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder whose bid is responsive to all specification and requirements.

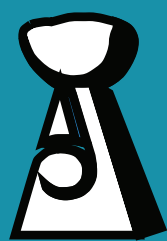
Bidders will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) local time on **February 11, 2011** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - [msablan@cucgov.net](mailto:msablan@cucgov.net) with a copy to Captain, Robert Lorenz, Water/Wastewater Chief Engineer via email [robert\\_lorenz@cucgov.net](mailto:robert_lorenz@cucgov.net) & Mr. Robert Malate, Water Division Engineer via email [rmalate@cucgov.net](mailto:rmalate@cucgov.net) and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Admin. Support Assistant, Procurement & Supply - [mika\\_muna@cucgov.net](mailto:mika_muna@cucgov.net).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**ABE UTU MALAE**  
Executive Director





# JOETEN'S BEST BUYS OF THE WEEK! January 20 - 26

**DEPARTMENT  
STORE**

Rice Cooker  
5 Cups  
**\$98<sup>99</sup>**

Rice Cooker  
10 Cups  
**\$112<sup>99</sup>**

Handy Pot  
3 Liter  
**\$22<sup>99</sup>**

Handy Pot  
1 Liter  
**\$21<sup>00</sup>**

 **ZOJIRUSHI PRODUCTS**

SUSUPE SHOPPING CENTER  
TEL.: 234-6446  
THRU SAT. 8:00A.M. - 9:00P.M. / SUN. 8:00A.M. - 7:00P.M.

DANDAN SUPERMARKET  
TEL.: 235-6016  
MON. THRU SAT. 8:00A.M. - 9:00P.M.

HABA-ADAI SHOPPING CENTER  
TEL.: 234-7596  
MON. THRU SUN. 9:00A.M. - 11:00P.M.

KAGMAN MARKET  
TEL.: 256-6441  
MON. THRU SAT. 8:00A.M. - 10:00P.M.

**JOETEN  
ACE<sup>®</sup>  
HARDWARE**  
Saipan  
*The Helpful Place!*

Lysol Antibacterial  
Cleaner 32 oz.  
sku # 1366095 **\$2.99**

VSR Dewalt Drill 3/8"  
sku # 2122356 **\$79.99**

Duracell AA Alkaline  
Battery 20pk.  
sku # 3296035 **\$15.99**

Gorilla Torch Flashlight  
sku # 3295276 **\$29.99**

4D Krypton Lantern  
sku # 3165776 **\$12.99**

**JOETEN  
ACE<sup>®</sup>  
HARDWARE**

**Come and visit us for more sale!  
Hurry, while supplies last!**

Store Hours: Monday - Saturday 8am - 6pm/Sunday 8am - 5pm

**SUSUPE BRANCH**  
Joeten Shopping Center Beach Road, Susupe  
Tel: 234-3117 or 6448 - Fax: 235-7568

**GUALO RAI BRANCH**  
Gualo Rai Commercial Center  
Middle Road Tel: 235-9322 - Fax: 235-9325

**SAN VICENTE BRANCH**  
San Vicente Road  
Tel: 234-3176 - Fax: 235-1686

GENUINE PARTS. GENUINE SERVICE. GENUINE PEACE OF MIND. GENUINE PARTS. GENUINE SERVICE. GENUINE PEACE OF MIND.

**NAPA Premium  
Motor Oil**

5W 20, 5W 30, 10W 30,  
& 10W 40  
Net Wt. 1 Qt.

**\$2.85**  
/ea.



**GOJO Natural  
Hand Cleaner  
WITH PUMICE**

**\$18.95**  
/GAL.



**RiSLONE Engine  
Treatment**

- Reduces Friction & Wear
- Quiets Noisy Lifters & Valves
- Remove & Prevents Sludge

**\$10.50**



**Brake Fluid**

Net Wt. 12 fl.oz. (355 ml.)

**\$3.00** /ea.



**NAPA Oil Treatment**  
Helps Protect Against Engine Wear  
Net wt. 15 oz.

**\$4.50**



**Visit us at  
Our Location  
at Joeten Motors!**

Limited offer,  
while supplies last.



**AUTO PARTS**  
**MARIANAS NAPA, INC.**

WE SELL PARTS FOR ALL KINDS OF CARS & TRUCKS



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
Volume XXI, Issue No. 16Published daily at 2/F JP Centre,  
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR  
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## EDITORIAL

### Phony research must not deter needed vaccinations

In February 1998, British researchers led by Dr. Andrew Wakefield published a report in the prestigious medical journal *The Lancet*. The study, based on the cases of 12 young children, suggested the frightening possibility that MMR, a combined vaccine for measles, mumps and rubella, was causing childhood bowel diseases and autism spectrum disorders.

Here's what has been learned in the 13 years since then:

■ Most of Dr. Wakefield's co-researchers withdrew their names from the key findings of the report, and the hospital where the research took place discharged him.

■ Before the research even began, Dr. Wakefield had glaring conflicts of interest that he repeatedly failed to disclose. He was being paid by a lawyer who was planning to sue manufacturers of vaccines. Dr. Wakefield also applied for patents for an alternate vaccine and a diagnostic procedure, both of which could become highly profitable if they could link MMR vaccine to autism and bowel disease. He started planning to set up a private company to handle business generated by his patents.

■ Last February, *The Lancet* publicly retracted the 1998 report. Three months later, Great Britain's independent General Medical Council declared Dr. Wakefield "dishonest" and "irresponsible." It said he had "acted contrary to the clinical interests" of the children in the study by, among other things, subjecting them to medically unnecessary spinal taps and colonoscopies. It stripped Dr. Wakefield and his principal collaborator, Dr. John Walker-Smith, of the right to practice medicine.

■ Most important of all, some two dozen scientific studies since 1998, involving millions of children, have found no link between autism and the MMR vaccine or other vaccines.

Yet Dr. Wakefield and his discredited study continue to fortify a small but potent movement opposed to mandatory vaccinations. MMR immunization rates in Britain, for example, slid to 80 percent by 2003 from around 90 percent in previous years. Within five years, the rates of measles infections in England and Wales soared to the point that the disease was declared endemic. (MMR immunizations in the United States have remained at or close to the 90 percent mark).

The damning revelations keep coming. Just last week, the 170-year-old *British Medical Journal* launched a three-part series of articles by British journalist Brian Deer. The first two parts (part three appears next week) presented evidence that the Wakefield study falsified and misrepresented data on all 12 of the children in ways that consistently tilted toward Dr. Wakefield's financial interests.

Dr. Rachel Orscheln, a specialist in pediatric infectious diseases at Washington University's School of Medicine, told us she understood the concerns of some people who oppose vaccinations, particularly parents of autistic children. "It's a condition that doesn't have a known cause, and people are desperate to find out what that cause might be," she said.

Nevertheless, she cautioned, "the consequences of under-vaccinating can be devastating to individuals and to society. ... In one sense, we're victims of our own success. Because people don't see them anymore, they don't understand the seriousness of the diseases we're preventing with vaccinations."

Polio, measles, rubella, meningitis, hepatitis A and B, mumps, chicken pox, tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough, influenza and rotavirus are all serious diseases. Don't take our word for it. Ask your doctor.

(c) 2011, St. Louis Post-Dispatch



## Why I applied to become president

*Editor's Note: Rik Villegas is applying for the position of president at Northern Marianas College. He can be contacted at RikVillegas@gmail.com, and you can comment on this article at <http://rikv.blogspot.com>.*

Over the past few weeks I have met numerous individuals who expressed their disappointment that the Board of Regents chose to reopen the position for president of Northern Marianas College. I have decided to reapply for the position and in the spirit of "transparency" will waive my right to privacy and share my thoughts, feelings, and concerns as NMC is poised to deal with some of the greatest challenges it has ever faced.

The state of the college is not dissimilar to the current state of the CNMI. It is in a turnaround situation that requires reviewing current assets and programs, recognizing and developing the many available opportunities, taking decisive action, and providing solid leadership that encourages all stakeholders to work together toward the common good of the college and community.

The following comes from the cover letter that accompanied my first and second application packet for president of Northern Marianas College. It expresses why I applied for the position and what I plan to accomplish:

*I am applying for the position of President because I want to inspire positive change that will transform Northern Marianas College into an internationally recognized institution offering quality courses, programs, and degrees. My decision to apply for this position is solely motivated by my concern and love for the Commonwealth and the College, particularly the students, staff and faculty that I have served with over the last 13 years.*

*I want to see NMC move forward by: first, developing a solid team of trained individuals who take the initiative to achieve our mission; second, improving our financial position so we have the resources to accomplish our mission; and third, establishing clearly articulated goals that fully realize the vision and mission of the College.*

*NMC is charged with developing the future leaders of the Commonwealth, and in order to effectively accomplish that goal, the College must demonstrate the qualities and principles of leadership itself and become the LEADER and example for the rest of the community. It will take more than hiring just one person to take the lead at the College; it will take a president who will develop the personnel into self-directed leaders who work effectively to realize the potential that NMC has to offer to its students and the entire community.*

*I have turned around difficult situations and brought stability at the College and in the private sector on a number of occasions. Within one year after moving to Saipan, I was elected as the Faculty Senate President and invited to Executive Council meetings, where I gained valuable insights working alongside President Agnes M. McPhetres and other top management at NMC. During the tumultuous NMC oversight hearings in 1999, I worked closely with the Board and President to help stabilize the College, and was in-*

By RIK VILLEGAS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Rik is a writer, marketing consultant and business instructor at Northern Marianas College. He can be contacted at RikVillegas@gmail.com, and you can comment on this article at <http://rikv.blogspot.com>.*



*strumental in bringing the faculty together to support the President during this difficult time.*

*When the NMC Small Business Development Center was at risk of being taken away from the College, I was asked by the NMC President to apply for the director's position and help turn things around. As the SBDC Director, I worked closely with the staff to create its first Strategic Plan and presented it to the Board for approval. I worked closely with President Agnes M. McPhetres, Board Chair Justice Ramon Villagomez, and CNMI Senators and Representatives to successfully maintain the SBDC at the College.*

*In the private sector, I have worked with hundreds of large and small businesses to turn their organizations around by developing internal systems to improve operations, creating strategic plans to increase their market share and revenue, and heading up major promotions and projects. In addition, I have over 450 published articles covering business, personal development and community issues. I have served in numerous leadership positions, taught leadership courses, and closely observed and learned from the leadership styles of every president of the College.*

*In the past few years, I have remained a business instructor at the College because I love teaching and it offers more job stability. There is an extremely high turnover among Deans and Presidents, with the average tenure lasting about two to three years before they resign, are not renewed, or terminated. This has not only created leadership instability, but it has eroded the institutional memory as new leaders are hired without adequate training in their respective roles. The net result is that NMC has made little progress in the past several years, beyond maintaining its accreditation.*

*NMC is facing some of the most difficult challenges it has ever experienced. However, I believe we can overcome our challenges and emerge even better and stronger. Because of my work in turning around organizations, my understanding of the community and culture, and my history and experience with the College, I believe I am the best candidate at this moment to meet and overcome the challenges we're facing. The relationships I have developed within and outside the College will allow me to work closely with key individuals and groups to implement strategic initiatives that will help NMC to move ahead.*

*When people are working together in a spirit of harmony and their thoughts, desires, and actions are aligned toward a common vision, mission, and goals, it creates a powerful force and momentum.*

See WHY on Next Page



EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Government’s obesity crisis

By EMILY SKARBEEK  
THE INDEPENDENT INSTITUTE

The question that will haunt America for the next several months is whether the new 112th Congress has the will to trim back the unsustainable excesses to which Washington has become accustomed or will fall back into old, unhealthy habits.

Every representative must wage battle between personal desires and the will to make responsible decisions. But the road to discipline is fraught with temptation.

The first test will be raising the statutory limit on the amount of money the government can borrow. Even before the new Congress was sworn in, Austan Goolsbee, chairman of President Obama’s Council of Economic Advisers, was warning that failing to raise the debt limit—now \$14.3 trillion, or more than 95 percent of last year’s Gross Domestic Product—would be “catastrophic” and pure “insanity.”

Goolsbee’s cries to loosen the belt on the already obese federal budget sounded much like the excuses overeaters use to avoid changing their habits. “Just a few more cookies. ... I’ll work myself into those skinny jeans tomorrow.”

Goolsbee certainly is not the first to want to delay self-denial. Since World War I, when the Second Liberty Bond Act of 1917 placed a

statutory limit on government borrowing, Congress has increased the debt ceiling more than 70 times. But each increase, like those additional cookies, has made it more difficult to stop and has helped hide the fact that we face ruin if the overindulgence continues.

Unfortunately, what has been a relatively benign problem until recently—the proverbial “10 extra pounds”—has now become the equivalent of America’s obesity crisis.

Economist Craig Eyermann, creator of our online Government Cost Calculator, MyGovCost.org, recently examined the economic burden government spending has placed on American families.

In his brief study, “Aim at the Zero Deficit Line,” Eyermann found that during the years 1967 through 2001 median household income and government spending increased at approximately the same rate. As a result, during that nearly 35-year period, Washington could have balanced the federal budget by reducing federal spending a mere \$570.75 per household per year.

After 2001, however, the gap between median household incomes and government spending widened—with incomes more or less stagnant, while government spending soared. By 2009, Eyermann found, the government would have had to lower spending approximately \$8,991 per household to balance the budget.

Last fall, before he became speaker of the House, Rep. John Boehner proposed rolling back federal spending to 2008 levels. But that’s like a

sedentary senior reducing his daily calorie intake from 5,500 to 4,500; it’s still way too much.

The federal budget in fiscal year 2010 was \$3.6 trillion. In fiscal 2008 it was \$2.9 trillion. In 2000, President Clinton’s final full year in office, the budget was \$1.8 trillion.

Many liberals speak of the Clinton era as the golden age of contemporary politics, when everything was right with Washington. So let’s return to those golden days, when the federal budget was half of what it is today.

Like all gluttons struggling to reform, politicians and presidential advisers will provide plenty of excuses for increasing the debt limit—just this once. But if 70 previous increases weren’t enough, why will this increase be different? Or is Washington playing its usual games?

Tomorrow is now upon us—the profligate 111th Congress is history and the 112th has taken its place, promising fealty to America’s founders and frugality to American taxpayers.

Will Washington hold the line this time? I sigh in hopeful exasperation as I reach for another cookie.

*Emily C. Skarbek is director of the Government Cost Calculator (MyGovCost.org) at the Independent Institute and assistant professor of economics at San Jose State University.*

## Letters to the Editor

## Clarifications

The article published by this newspaper on Friday, Jan. 14, 2011, needs to be addressed. Its headline, “House scraps \$350 mandatory driver’s education requirement,” is misleading and some of the information presented by the reporter is inaccurate.

The reporter wrote “Senate Bill 17-20, which will *repeal* Public Law 15-25 in its entirety, goes back to the Senate for action.” This is grossly incorrect.

In reality, the text of S.B. 17-20, SD1, HS1, HD2 reads “The purpose of this Act is *not* to temporarily suspend the driver education requirement for persons in the CNMI who are first time drivers...”

Likewise, it was reported that Floor Leader George Camacho “offered to repeal PL 15-25 in its entirety and amended other sections. The members adopted his amendment.”

Representative Camacho’s amendment has been withdrawn and I could not find any evidence that is was ever incorporated into any previous version of the House substitute bill.

The article also states that the House of Representatives passed a bill that scraps “the mandatory driver education that has been costing residents \$350, on top of the total \$100 needed to secure student and driver’s licenses.”

## Nonsense

Repetitive attempts to close down the driver’s education program is nonsense. Yes, it is “costly.” I also had trouble completing the whole payment, but look how much of the so-called “licensed drivers” on this island are making the road so dangerous. Even some police officers break rules of driving here. Makes you wonder whether any driving law really exists on this island.

I’m one of the graduates of the driver’s education here and, by learning all the behind-the-wheels rules to actually driving the car myself, I was able to see how scary it is to drive on this island. Can’t the government partially fund the driver’s education, instead of just taking benefits off of the program? Use the fees paid by students to better the roads!? Hello!

## Uncompensated

An article in the *Saipan Tribune* published on Monday, Jan. 17, 2011, reports that responses to OGA requests “included disbursements to Fitial’s former and current counsels” identifying Deanne Siemer as one of that group.

As we have repeatedly made clear to *Tribune* writers, the only CNMI government appointment of any kind that Deanne has ever held is as an uncompensated hearing officer in the Department of Labor. She helped out at the Department of Labor in cleaning up a large backlog of labor cases. In the process of so doing, she made expenditures from her own funds for prompt publication of some of the notices in the *Tribune* and other papers so that these cases could be resolved expeditiously. Literally thousands of foreign workers benefited from having these cases adjudicated in this cleanup process, and over 5,000 cases were completed over an 18-month period. Deanne received no compensation of any kind, other than our thanks, for the many, many hours she put into this project. Our

The current fee for a driver license in the CNMI is \$30 and \$10 for a learner’s permit.

Finally, the following text is misleading: “The bill will also cut the driver’s license fee from \$80 to only \$40, while the \$20 for a student driver license remains.”

The \$80 for a license and the \$20 permit fee was first proposed in S.B. 17-20, SD1, CS1 and then, added an amendment to H.B. 17-95 HD1, the bill that was passed by the House in early September 2010. The purpose of the latter bill was to repeal PL 15-25.

S.B. 17-20, SD1, CS1 was “filed” in the House and H.B. 17-95 HD1 met the same fate in the Senate. When a bill is “filed,” it means that a decision was made not to act on it.

S.B. 17-20, SD1, HS1, HD2 actually increases the fee for a driver license from \$30 to \$40 and an applicant would need to pay \$20 rather than \$10 for a permit.

Please keep in mind that accurate reporting is an essential component of responsible journalism.

**Rich Puhalla**  
ISTS-DTA  
Capital Hill, Saipan

Are you also aware of the fact that fuel prices are rocketing high for the past few months? And that the cars used for the driver’s education also need fuel? We all know that people on this island, including myself, are suffering from the economic crisis, but that does not mean you could allow dangerous drivers with huge potential for car accidents to be on the road. To me, the government sounds like it’s them that don’t have the money. They all have been elected by the people, with expectations of bettering the lives of people. Does the current Legislature exist for the people? Be real.

**Mami Ikeda**  
Gualo Rai, Saipan

caseload is now completely current.

All of the expenditures that Deanne made were for purposes approved by the Department of Labor but for which funds had not yet been released by the Department of Finance. When the funds were released, her expenditures of personal funds were reimbursed. The records of these reimbursements were provided by the Governor’s Office in response to OGA requests and reported by you. All of these reimbursements were documented by receipts for the expenditures made. Many of these receipts were from the *Tribune*. You knew of Deanne’s uncompensated status, and you knew about the expenditures. You should have either reported this accurately or taken a very modest amount of time to call and check the facts.

**Cinta M. Kaipat**  
Acting Secretary of Labor  
San Antonio, Saipan

## Extra charge

For an interesting example of the effect of U.S. homeland security measures on other countries, herewith is the text of a notice that appears in Australian post offices (courtesy my cousin, who lives in Morooka). Though the CNMI is not listed, it is included on the list of those subject to the extra \$9 charge.

*Public Notice*  
*Australian Post*  
*Date: 22 November 2010*

### **Aviation Security - air parcel restrictions to the United States**

*Due to heightened border protection and increased aviation security measures introduced by the United States (US), there is [sic] likely to be delays of around 48 hours to parcels being sent to this destination.*

*These new measures have higher requirements for screening and transport, and as a result a \$9.00 surcharge will be imposed on all parcels over 453 grams (16 ounces) destined for the United States from Monday 22 November 2010. This includes all US states and territories, and other countries with open transits through the US as listed below:*

- Puerto Rico
- Guam
- Marshall Islands
- Palau
- Virgin Islands
- Federated States of Micronesia

*We advise customers sending mail to the United States for Christmas to lodge their items as soon as possible. Australia Post is working hard to meet the demands of the increased security measures, whilst maintaining a focus on timely mail delivery.*

*This surcharge has been introduced solely to cover the costs of the revised security arrangements required by the United States, and Australia Post reiterates that the circumstances are beyond our control*

*Australia Post apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause.*

**Ruth L. Tighe**  
Tanapag, Saipan

## WHY

From Page 10

*tum to accomplish practically anything. I feel that it will take a leader who can bring out the individual best effort of everyone at the College to work closely together as a team to achieve greater success. Choosing the right leader is the key for NMC to realize its full potential and become an internationally recognized institution offering quality courses, programs and degrees.*






*I deeply care about the College, its personnel and students, and I believe NMC can continue to make a positive difference in the lives of everyone in the Commonwealth. If I am chosen to become the next President, I will commit to develop a unified team consisting of the Board, management, staff, faculty, students and the community, so that we can transform Northern Marianas College into the preferred community college in the Western Pacific.*



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

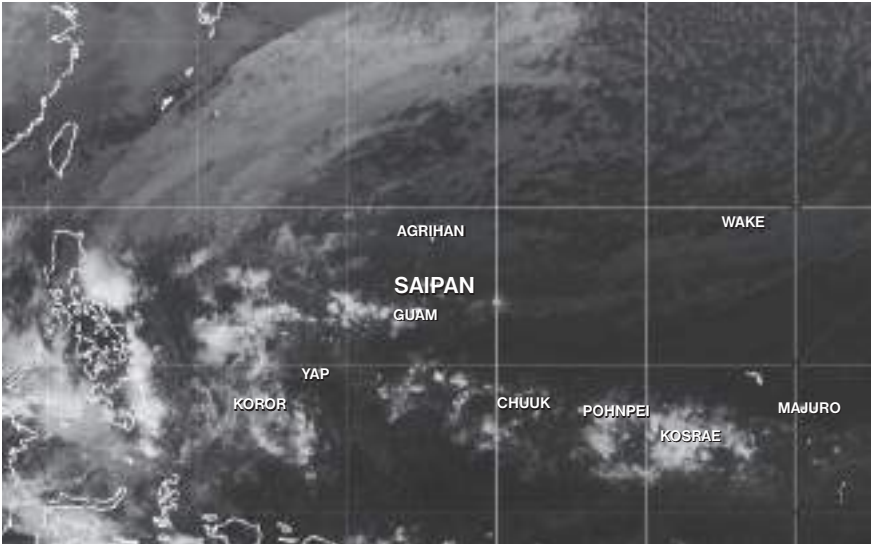
TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers.
▲85° ▼77°	▲85° ▼77°	▲85° ▼77°	▲85° ▼77°	▲85° ▼77°

Micronesia			
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼77
Yap	Rain	▲87	▼77
Chuuk	Mostly Sunny	▲84	▼79
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼76
Kosrae	Showers	▲87	▼77
Majuro	Showers	▲84	▼75

Around The Globe			
Auckland	Showers	▲71	▼67
Beijing	Sunny	▲37	▼14
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼47
Honolulu	Showers	▲79	▼71
London	Partly Cloudy	▲41	▼33
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲72	▼46
Manila	Thundershowers	▲86	▼73
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲82	▼65
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼65
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲31	▼27
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲45	▼35
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲40	▼31
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲40	▼24
Rome	Showers	▲49	▼40
Salem	Showers	▲51	▼42
San Francisco	Sunny	▲62	▼49
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲28	▼11
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲48	▼34
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲40	▼34

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
1:52 AM	Today	High Tide:	0.6 Feet
8:50 AM	Today	Low Tide:	2.0 Feet
2:16 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.1 Feet
7:17 PM	Today	Low Tide:	2.1 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



120 130 140 150 160 170

PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2011  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward from 21N180E to east of the CNMI at 15N158E then continues westward as a shear line to 130E at 13N. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found around Guam along and up to 200 miles northwest of the shear line. Otherwise, cloudiness and patchy rain exist along and up to 250 miles northwest of this boundary. A surface trough west of Koror runs northward from 4N134E to meet the shear line at 13N132E. A near-equatorial trough south of Koror extends southeastward from 3N130E to EQ136E. These two features are combining to produce scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms around Koror within 125 miles of a line extending northwestward from 4N137E to 13N132E. Trade wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Kosrae within 175 miles of a line from 6N156E to 3N169E and scattered showers southeast and east of Majuro within 110 miles of a line from 3N171E to 6N180.

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	6:47 AM	6:09 PM	Today	6:34 PM	6:44 AM
Friday	6:47 AM	6:09 PM	Friday	7:35 PM	7:34 AM
Saturday	6:47 AM	6:10 PM	Saturday	8:35 PM	8:21 AM
Sunday	6:47 AM	6:10 PM	Sunday	9:34 PM	9:06 AM
Monday	6:47 AM	6:11 PM	Monday	10:32 PM	9:51 AM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

**PICTURES**

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS  
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS  
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS  
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI  
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE  
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

- CAMPUS BULLETIN  
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**For pictures:**

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

**For announcements:**

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

**HOW TO SUBMIT**

- E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com) or [jayvee\\_vallejera@saipantribune.com](mailto:jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com).
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

**POLICY**

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). Website:[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

**SUBSCRIPTION** Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

**ADVERTISING** For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: [sales@saipantribune.com](mailto:sales@saipantribune.com)

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 16, 2010											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM						GUAM-SAIPAN					
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily			C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6			C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6		
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7			C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7		
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7			C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7		
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7			C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7		
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily			C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily		
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily			C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:10am	8:45am	Daily			DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily		
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6			DL286	7:45pm	12:20am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 7		
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily			DL288	8:00pm	12:30am+1	Daily		
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)						OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN					
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily			OZ120	9:50am	2:20am+1	Daily		
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 4, 5, 7			OZ607	9:10pm	2:20am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1			OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7		
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX		
OZ604	3:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7			OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7		
OZ119	4:00am	11:25am	Daily via KIX			OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6			FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
CA988	3:15am	6:55am	1, 5 Dec 13, 17, 20, 24 & 27 only			CA987	6:40pm	1:55am+1	4, 7 Dec 12, 16, 19, 23 & 26 only		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN		
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ716/603	12:30am	2:20pm	4, 6 via ICN		
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM			DL172/286	8:05am	12:20am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 7		
DL285/173	6:40am	10:15pm	1, 3, 4, 5, 6 via NRT			C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM		
C09313/933	7:55am	9:25pm	3 via GUM			OZ702/605	1:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN		
C09313/893	7:55am	11:00pm	3 via GUM-Palau			OZ702/605	1:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
C09603/933	3:05pm	9:25pm	5 via GUM			PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM		
C09603/893	3:05pm	11:00pm	5 via GUM-Palau			PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM		
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN			C0892/9596	10:25pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM-Palau		
OZ604/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7			C0892/9596	10:25pm	7:50am+1	5 via GUM-Palau		
C09605/933	6:20pm	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			C0934/9596	11:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 7 via GUM		
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM			C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	4 via GUM		
						C0934/9596	11:59pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM		
						C0934/9596	11:59pm	7:50am+1	5 via GUM		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG						HONG KONG-SAIPAN					
OZ606/721	2:10am	12:00pm	1 via ICN			OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN		
OZ606/721	2:40am	12:00pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN		
C09603/909	3:05pm	10:25pm	1, 5 via GUM			OZ722/605	1:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ604/723	3:20pm	10:35pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/605	1:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
OZ604/749	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN			C0910/9596	11:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM		
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; CA: Air China ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)											

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE													
Airline				ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline				ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota							FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily			
Rota-Saipan							FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily			
Guam-Rota							FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily			
Rota-Saipan							FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily			
Saipan-Rota							Tinian-Saipan						
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily			
Rota-Guam							FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily			
Saipan-Rota							FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily			
Rota-Guam							FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily			
							FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily			
Saipan-Tinian							FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily				FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily			
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily				FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily			
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily				FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily			
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily				FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily			
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily				FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily			
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily										



Business

Continental to operate Guam-Saipan flights Jan. 19-20

**Continental Airlines** GUAM—Continental Airlines announced that it will operate two round-trip flights between Guam’s A.B. Won Pat International Airport and Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport on Jan. 19 and 20.

The decision was made in lieu of Continental Connection partner Cape Air’s suspended services on both days due to required maintenance work on the ATR aircraft that currently serves the route. Continental is doing everything possible to accommodate all affected customers, but due to ongoing runway construction in Saipan, Continental is unable to operate additional service between Guam and Saipan during daylight hours. Continental will operate the flights using Boeing 737 next-generation aircraft.

Affected customers are requested to contact Continental reservation office to amend their reservations and secure travel plans on one of the subject flights or other available flights

The schedule for the subject flights is as follows:

Date	Flight	Route	Departing	Arriving	Aircraft Model
Jan. 19, 2011	CO 987	Guam – Saipan	02:30	02:55	B737
Jan. 19, 2011	CO 986	Saipan – Guam	03:50	04:35	B737
Jan. 20, 2011	CO 987	Guam – Saipan	02:30	02:55	B737
Jan. 20, 2011	CO 986	Saipan – Guam	03:50	04:35	B737

For travel bookings and other customer inquiries, please contact the local Continental reservation office +1- 671-647-6453 (Guam) and +1-866-359-6435 (Saipan). *(Continental)*

Can Apple thrive without its visionary CEO?



Three file photos, from left, Jan. 2010, July 2010 and Oct. 2010, show Apple CEO Steve Jobs. Apple announced Monday Jan. 17, 2011, that Jobs is taking a medical leave of absence for the second time in two years.

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)**—If investors were as visionary as Steve Jobs has proved to be during his 35 years of tech wizardry, they might be able to figure out whether Apple can still thrive if its founder and CEO doesn’t return from his indefinite medical leave.

But Jobs’ prescience is a rarity, which is why doubt and anxiety will probably hang over the company until his fate is clearer.

■■■■■

Apple Inc.’s stellar holiday-quarter results were enough to make investors forget, at least for the moment, that CEO Steve Jobs is taking another medical leave of absence.

The company was able to boost production of iPads faster than analysts predicted, and shoppers bought iPhones as fast as Apple could make them, helping drive the company’s fiscal first-quarter net income up 78 percent from the prior year.

Shares rose mildly in after-hours trading after the results came out, partly offsetting a more than 2 percent drop during regular trading on the health news.

■■■■■

The iPod-iPhone-iPad revolution that Jobs unleashed over the past decade should ensure that Apple’s revenue and earnings keep growing for at least the next two to three years, according to analysts. What’s more, Jobs has

assembled and trained a savvy, hard-driving management team that should be capable of following his road map for the company.

The question is whether Apple can remain a step ahead and develop products that reshape technology, media and pop culture if Jobs isn’t around to divine the next big thing.

Without Jobs, “Apple is a lot more like other companies. Its extraordinariness fades,” says technology analyst Roger Kay of Endpoint Technologies Associates.

Apple Inc. announced Monday that Jobs, who co-founded the company in 1976, would take an indefinite medical leave for unspecified problems. The leave could be related to his previous bout with pancreatic cancer or his 2009 liver transplant.

For now, investors appear to be hoping for the best. Apple stock fell \$7.83, a little more than 2 percent, to close Tuesday at \$340.65. It recovered more than half of that loss after the closing bell after reporting strong earnings.

For the regular trading day, Apple lost \$7 billion in market value, although most analysts believe Jobs’ leadership and presence is worth much more to the company.

Jobs’ value is difficult to gauge because of the sheer force of his personality, said Robert Sutton, a professor of management science at Stanford University who has

studied Jobs and Apple. “Anyone who thinks they can estimate that is probably lying,” Sutton says.

Stock market analyst Brian Marshall of investment bank Gleacher & Co. suspects people still hope Jobs will return to the CEO job that he has held since 1997. Since then, Jobs has orchestrated a turnaround that increased Apple’s market value by 100 times.

Marshall and other analysts aren’t optimistic that Jobs will resume his CEO duties, partly because he did not set a timetable for his return. Before he got the new liver, Jobs took a leave of absence from January through June 2009.

It’s tough to gauge Jobs’ current health problems because he has said so little about his past ones. He had a tumor removed in 2004—a rare and very treatable form of pancreatic cancer—but never said whether it had spread to lymph nodes, nor how extensive his surgery was.

“We don’t really know how much of his pancreas was removed. He may just have a remnant,” and that may be causing continued digestive difficulties, said Dr. Charles R. Thomas of Ohio State University’s Knight Cancer Institute.

Dr. Jennifer Obel, a spokeswoman for the American Society of Clinical Oncology and a cancer specialist at Northshore University Health System in suburban

Chicago, said the prognosis is good for those with pancreatic tumors like the one Jobs had, even if the tumors spread.

“He’s done extremely well living with this disease for many years,” she said. “I wouldn’t assume anything until he has released more information.”

Apple declined further comment Tuesday on Jobs’ health.

Apple barely missed a beat the last time Jobs was gone, and its stock climbed more than 60 percent as sales of the iPhone and Mac computers surged, even as the recession dragged on. That’s a testament to Apple’s chief operating officer, Tim Cook, who will be in charge while Jobs is away once again.

In a Tuesday conference call to discuss Apple’s earnings, Cook predicted Apple will still shine.

“Apple is doing its best work ever,” Cook said. “We are all very happy with the product pipeline, and the team here has an unparalleled breadth and depth of talent and a culture of innovation that Steve has driven in the company. Excellence has become a habit.”

Cook has pretty much the same management team supporting him this time. The key players besides Cook include Jonathan Ive, who oversees the elegant design of Apple’s products; Ron Johnson, who runs Apple’s stores; Philip Schiller, the marketing chief; and Scott Forstall, who supervises the iPhone software.

**BUSINESS BRIEFS**

**Credit card problems ebbed in December**

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Fewer credit card accounts slipped into default in December than in any other month of 2010, and signs point to further improvement ahead. All six of the biggest card issuers Tuesday posted their lowest rates for charge-offs, or accounts written off as uncollectible. Citibank, which has had some of the highest charge-off rates over the past two years, posted the biggest decline. It wrote off 8.34 percent of its card balances in December, down from 9.4 percent in November and well below the high of 11.55 percent posted in March. Discover, Chase and Capital One also reported substantial declines.

**Comcast wins government approval to take over NBC**

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The government on Tuesday cleared the way for Comcast Corp., the country’s largest cable company, to take over NBC Universal in a deal certain to transform the entertainment industry landscape. Comcast is buying a 51 percent stake in NBC Universal, home of the NBC television network, from General Electric

Co. for \$13.8 billion in cash and assets. The Justice Department and five state attorneys general said Tuesday that they have reached a court settlement allowing the companies to proceed with their combination, subject to conditions intended to preserve competition among video providers.

**Mattel lawyer accuses MGA of luring Bratz designer**

**SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP)**—Toy rivals Mattel Inc. and MGA Entertainment Inc. on Tuesday began the second round of their lengthy legal battle over the rights to the wildly popular Bratz line, with two markedly different versions of the development of the multibillion-dollar brand. In his opening statement at the copyright infringement case, Mattel attorney John Quinn said MGA conspired with Bratz designer Carter Bryant to steal the idea for Bratz while Bryant still worked for Mattel. Quinn told jurors that MGA CEO Isaac Larian then poached key Mattel employees to support the doll line and lied when reporters asked about the genesis of the small company’s overnight hit.

### BankPacific receives ‘outstanding’ Community Reinvestment Act rating

BankPacific was informed yesterday that it has once again been given an “outstanding” Community Reinvestment Act rating by its U.S. bank regulators.

Community Reinvestment Act ratings reflect bank participation in making loans to homeowners, consumers, and small businesses.


The “outstanding” rating is held by less than 7 percent of all FDIC-insured banks in America.

“BankPacific is proud to have

received the rating and plans to continue delivering the highest standard of service and quality. We remain fully committed to our island communities and our “outstanding” rating reflects the philosophy of our board, management, and staff to put people into homes and to help small businesses across the Pacific,” said bank president Philip Flores.

BankPacific opened its doors in 1954 and has offices in Guam, Saipan, and Palau. *(PR)*

STOCK  
PORTFOLIO




LEADING INDICATORS

DOW

11,837.93

+50.55

+0.43%




S&P

1,295.02

+1.78

+0.14%




NASDAQ

2,765.85

+10.55

+0.38%



EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.0028
British Pound	0.6254
Canadian Dollar	0.9915
Chinese Yuan	6.5875
Euro	0.7462

Hong Kong Dollar	7.7771
Indian Rupee	45.4275
Indonesian Rupiah	9,054.75
Japanese Yen	82.7005
Malaysian Ringgit	3.0574
New Zealand Dollar	1.2973

Philippine Peso	44.5300
Singapore Dollar	1.2833
South Korean Won	1,116.525
Swiss Franc	0.9629
Taiwan Dollar	29.0275
Thailand Baht	30.4850



# Nation

## Shriver, one of last links to JFK admin, dies

**BETHESDA, Md. (AP)**—Bound by marriage to the nation's most powerful political family, R. Sargent Shriver showed his commitment to service not through high office but with achievements no less historic: first director of the Peace Corps and leader of the war on poverty.

One of the last links to President John F. Kennedy's administration, Shriver, who announced in 2003 that he had Alzheimer's disease, died Tuesday after being hospitalized for several days in his native Maryland. He was 95.

A businessman and lawyer, Shriver helped his wife and Special Olympics founder Eunice Kennedy Shriver run the organization that allows mentally challenged children to participate in sports, and also spent two years as ambassador to France.

For all his accomplishments, though the handsome and charming Shriver ultimately became known first as an in-law—brother-in-law of President Kennedy and, late in life, father-in-law of actor-former California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

President Barack Obama called Shriver, "one of the brightest lights of the greatest generation."

"Over the course of his long and distinguished career, Sarge came to embody the idea of public service," Obama said in a statement.

Born in 1915 to a prominent



In this Aug. 29, 2009 file photo, R. Sargent Shriver, left, is escorted to his seat in the church by his son Anthony Kennedy Shriver before funeral services for U.S. Sen. Edward Kennedy at the Basilica of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Basilica in Boston.

old Maryland family, Shriver was the son of a stockbroker who would lose most of his money in the crash of 1929.

Shriver went on a scholarship to Yale, then went on to Yale Law School. After serving in the Navy in the Pacific during World War II, he returned and became an assistant editor at Newsweek magazine. About this time, he met Eunice Kennedy and was immediately taken by her. They

married in 1953 in New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Speaking outside Suburban Hospital in Maryland where his father died, Anthony Kennedy Shriver said his father was "with my mom now," and called his parents' marriage a great love story.

Eunice died on Aug. 11, 2009, at age 88. The Kennedy family suffered a second blow that same month when Sen. Ed-

ward Kennedy died after a long battle with brain cancer.

At her mother's memorial service, the Shriver's daughter and former California first lady Maria Shriver said her father let her mother "rip and he let her roar, and he loved everything about her." The white-haired Shriver attended in a wheelchair.

After Shriver and Eunice met, family patriarch, the pow-

## Congress tones down the rhetoric after shootings

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Born of bloodshed, a self-proclaimed Age of Civility dawned in Congress on Tuesday. Republicans and Democrats of the House spoke without angry shouts and debated legislation to repeal the nation's year-old health care law without rancor.

By unspoken agreement, manners mattered, although there were few overt references to the reason—the shooting rampage in Arizona 10 days ago that left six dead, Rep. Gabrielle Giffords wounded and lawmakers of both parties stunned.

House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, R-Va., said no directives had gone out to rank-and-file lawmakers cautioning them about their behavior as the House convened to debate a highly controversial bill.

"We expect the debate to ensue along policy lines," he said, suggesting one that did not stray from the merits of the legislation itself.

Rep. Steny Hoyer of Maryland, the second-ranking Democrat, agreed.

"My expectation is that members will heed their own advice

and will address the issues in a way that will deal with them on the merits," he said. In the past, he added, too much of the public debate was "about incitement rather than informing about making people angry, disrespecting the ... point of view of the other side."

The change in tone was evident from the opening moments of the debate about a bill Republicans promised in last fall's campaign to make an early 2011 priority.

Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis., referred to the "job-destroying health care bill" that President

Barack Obama won from a Democratic-controlled Congress last year. It was a small but notable change from "job-killing"—the term Republicans had invariably preferred before the shootings in Arizona.

A few moments later, Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., took a moment to congratulate Republican Rep. Lamar Smith of Texas on his ascension to chairmanship of the House Judiciary Committee. It was a post Conyers was forced to surrender when the GOP won a majority in last fall's elections.

## Girl critical after L.A. school shooting

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—A gun in a 10th grader's backpack discharged Tuesday when he dropped the bag, wounding two students at a high school, including one who remained in critical condition, police said.

Both teens were hit with the same bullet, Los Angeles deputy police chief Patrick Gannon said.

John Deasy, deputy superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District, said there was no indication the student with the backpack had touched the gun before it discharged.

"He literally dropped his knapsack on the desk and it went off," Deasy said.

Gannon said the student apologized before running to another classroom.

"He said, 'I'm sorry,' when the gun went off. It made it appear to the teacher that it was an accident," Gannon said.

Still, Los Angeles police Lt.

erful Joseph P. Kennedy, hired his son-in-law to manage his Merchandise Mart in Chicago. He was a big success on the job and in Chicago in general—and even was elected head of the school board in 1955.

Though the Kennedys granted Shriver power, they also withheld it. As he would throughout his life, he sought higher office and considered running for governor of Illinois in 1960, only to be told the family needed his help for John Kennedy's presidential campaign.

During that campaign, Shriver, who had fought for integration in Chicago, helped persuade JFK to make a crucial decision despite other staffers' fears of a white backlash. When the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was jailed in Georgia that fall, Kennedy, urged by Shriver and fellow aide Harris Wofford, phoned King's wife and offered support. His gesture was deeply appreciated by King's family and brought the candidate crucial support.

John Pasquariello said it was a crime to bring a gun to campus. The unidentified student was arrested and charges were pending, he said.

"We don't know exactly what happened," Pasquariello said. "Traditionally, guns don't go off without someone's finger on the trigger."

A 15-year-old girl suffered a skull fracture and bruising to the brain and developed a significant blood clot when the bullet grazed her skull.

The blood clot was removed successfully, but the girl remained sedated and in critical condition, said Dr. James Ausman, a neurosurgeon at Los Angeles County Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. The girl's family was by her side.

A 15-year-old boy was in fair condition after being shot in the neck in a classroom at Gardena High School, a sprawling, 1950s-era school with rows of barracks-like classrooms.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Officials: Sen. Joe Lieberman will retire in 2012

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Sen. Joe Lieberman, the 2000 Democratic vice presidential nominee who angered the party by backing Republican John McCain for president in 2008, will retire and not seek a fifth term, Democratic officials said Tuesday. Word of Lieberman's decision came just hours after North Dakota

Sen. Kent Conrad, a Democrat, announced he would retire. Lieberman is an independent who usually votes with Democrats. Republican Sen. Richard Lugar of Indiana on Tuesday said he plans to seek a seventh term next year despite a challenge from tea party groups. Lieberman's seat could pose a pick-up opportunity for Democrats in a state where President Obama has been popular.

#### 2 charged with stealing iPad users' information

**NEWARK, N.J. (AP)**—Two men who authorities say were competing to impress their fellow hackers were arrested Tuesday on federal charges they stole the e-mail addresses of more than 100,000 Apple iPad users, including politicians and media personalities. The theft and the AT&T security weakness that made it possible were

revealed months ago, and U.S. Attorney Paul Fishman said there was no evidence the men used the swiped information for criminal purposes. Authorities cautioned, however, that it could theoretically have wound up in the hands of spammers and scam artists. Daniel Spitler, a 26-year-old bookstore security guard from San Francisco, and Andrew Auernheimer, 25, of Fayetteville, Ark., were

charged with fraud and conspiracy to access a computer without authorization.

#### Camden police and firefighters turn in their gear

**CAMDEN, N.J. (AP)**—In a solemn display, laid-off firefighters and police officers lined up Tuesday to turn in their helmets and badges—symbols of deep budget cuts that were destined

to further erode the quality of life in one of the nation's most impoverished and crime-ridden cities. Nearly half the Camden police force, including civilians, and about one-third of its firefighters lost their jobs as city leaders sought to balance the budget amid falling tax revenue and diminishing aid from the state. In all, the city laid off 335 workers—about one-sixth of its employees.



# Asia

## Death toll from Philippine floods hits 57

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—Flash floods caused by unusually heavy rainfall have drowned four more people, raising the 3-week-old death toll in a third of the Philippines to 57 with 32 others missing, officials said Wednesday.

A 13-year-old girl was among the latest fatalities in southern Davao del Sur province, where 10 people were injured.

Among the missing were eight fishermen. Two others were rescued when their boat overturned in eastern Quezon province while more than 30 fishermen paddled to safety Tuesday near southwestern Palawan Island, where rains flooded at least six low-lying coastal villages.

Coast guard chief Rear Adm. Wildredo Tamayo said small fishing boats were barred from sailing in critical areas. A barge with four crew members broke loose off Semirara Island and has been drifting since Monday, but the coast guard established radio contact with the crew and was attempting to reach them, Tamayo said.

Above-average rainfall during what is supposed to be the middle of the dry season has drenched about 25 out of the archipelago's 80 provinces, affecting about 1.6 million people. About half a million have received emergency assistance, most of them in the northern and central Philippines.

The head of the government weather bureau, Graciano Yumul, said the rains are caused by a cold front that has been aggravated by the La Nina weather phenomenon, which refers to cooler-than-normal surface temperatures over parts of the Pacific Ocean.

He said that 33 out of 52 rainfall monitoring stations reported above-normal readings in the Philippines from Jan. 1 to 17. The highest rainfall recorded was on Pagasa, an island occupied by Philippine troops in the disputed Spratly chain, which recorded 16.16 inches (410 millimeters) compared with the average .38 inches (9.7 mm).

President Benigno Aquino III said last week he was considering a ban on logging in the country after blaming the floods on denuded forests that experts say have triggered erosion and mudslides.

Illegal logging is a recurring problem in the Philippines made possible by weak law enforcement and corruption.

Aquino's predecessor imposed a similar nationwide ban in 2004 after hundreds were killed in landslides, but it was lifted a year later. The logging ban that has been in place in six southern provinces for the past four years also failed to stop the lucrative business, Aquino said.



Rescuers push a stalled motorized tricycle in a flooded road as others wade through following continued rains brought about by the cold front in the central and southeastern parts of the country, at Sta. Cruz township, Davao del Sur province in southern Philippines Tuesday Jan. 18, 2011. AP

## Rising rivers swamp another Australian town

**MELBOURNE, Australia** (AP)—Authorities told townspeople in the southeast to flee homes with three days of supplies just before floodwaters breached levees Wednesday in the latest community swamped in a crisis that has devastated Australia's mining industry.

Up to 1,500 homes in Kerang, in the north of Victoria state, could be affected if the Loddon River rises any further. The flooding in Victoria follows weeks of massive flooding in northeastern Queensland, which left 30 people dead, swamped two-thirds of the giant state and paralyzed several mines.

Queensland authorities gave

several of the state's waterlogged coal mines special exemptions to environmental rules Wednesday so that they could pump water out into their already-flooded surroundings.

The mining industry estimates the flooding has cost 2.3 billion Australian dollars (\$2.3 billion) in lost sales of coal, Australia's most lucrative export, causing a shortage that has pushed up global prices.

In Victoria state, more than 750 miles (1,200 kilometers) south of the Bowen Basin which holds most of Queensland's coal mines, the Kerang levee breached at several points and townspeople were urged to

head for a relief center on higher ground, the State Emergency Services (SES) said.

"You should ensure you have left your property immediately," the SES said in text message alerts sent about 5:20 a.m. to the town's 2,500 residents.

"We have enough resources and enough high ground for people to still operate within Kerang, but if it becomes totally inundated there will be very few people left in town," Mayor Max Fehring told Sky News.

Walls of water miles (kilometers) wide are surging across northern and western Victoria in the wake of record rainfall last week. Floodwaters have already

left 1,000 households in Victoria's northwest without power, and thousands more homes are under threat of cuts as substations and low-lying power lines are submerged.

Energy supplier Powercor built earthen barriers around the substation in Kerang, in a floodplain expected to be inundated by six feet (two meters) of water.

Across Victoria state, more than 3,500 people have evacuated their homes, with 51 towns and 1,500 properties already affected by rising waters.

The victims in the earlier flooding in Queensland were mostly killed during a flash

flood that hit towns west of the state capital, Brisbane.

The government has said the Queensland floods could be the country's most expensive natural disaster ever, but has not yet released estimates of the costs. Some estimates already were at \$5 billion before muddy brown waters swamped Brisbane last week.

Twenty of Queensland's coal mines were given special permits Wednesday to pump floodwater from their sites and another 16 applications were under consideration, said Mike Birchley, the acting assistant director general of Queensland's Department of Environment and Resource Management.

Birchley said the permits carry conditions aimed at minimizing environmental damage from the extra water flows into surrounding creeks and rivers.

"The last thing the people of Queensland need while they are still experiencing elevated water levels in their communities is further risks to their local waterways," Birchley said in a statement.

Many of the state's 57 coal mines were working around the clock to remove floodwater and secure access to rail transport after tracks and bridges were washed away, said Michael Roche, chief executive of the state miners' association Queensland Resources Council.

## Major 7.2 earthquake hits SW Pakistan

**ISLAMABAD** (AP)—A major 7.2 magnitude earthquake rocked a remote area of southwestern Pakistan early Wednesday, shaking many parts of the country and causing tremors as far away as India and the United Arab Emirates.

The quake was centered in Baluchistan province, the country's most sparsely populated area, said the United States Geological Service, occurring at 1:30 a.m. local time at a depth of some 50 miles (84 kilometers).

Its epicenter was in a remote area some 200 miles (320 kilometers) southwest of the Baluchistan capital of Quetta, said chief Pakistani meteorologist Arif Mahmood, not far from the Afghan border.

The closest town to the epicenter was Dalbandin, with a population around 15,000 people,

and is so remote that the nearby Chagai hills were the site of Pakistan's 1998 nuclear tests.

There was no word on damage in Dalbandin. But another town close to the epicenter, Karan, suffered no major damage, said Fateh Bangar, Karan's deputy commissioner. The town was some 45 miles (70 kilometers) from the epicenter, he said.

Nasir Baluch, a police officer in Karan, said several mud houses collapsed or were damaged in an area outside the town called Mashkil. There was no immediate word on casualties, but the area is sparsely populated, he said.

There was no major damage in Quetta either, but the quake caused widespread panic in the city, said residents.

Local TV reports said the quake was felt throughout sev-

eral other provinces as well. Many residents in the country's largest city, Karachi, ran out into the streets once the quake started, said the reports.

Karachi resident Mohammad Zubair said he was watching a cricket match on TV when his bed began to shake.

"I jumped out of bed realizing it was an earthquake," said the 28-year-old. "My mom started reciting verses from the Quran, and we rushed outside."

Tremors lasting at least 20 seconds were also felt as far away as Dubai in the United Arab Emirates and in India's capital, New Delhi.

Earthquakes often rattle the region. A magnitude 7.6 quake on Oct. 8, 2005, killed about 80,000 people in northwestern Pakistan and Kashmir and left more than 3 million homeless.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Vietnam wraps up Party Congress

**HANOI, Vietnam** (AP)—Vietnam's grand meeting to pick its top Communist leaders wrapped up Wednesday with the reshuffling of many familiar high-ranking party members, as the government clung to its one-party system despite Western influences. As widely expected, Nguyen Phu Trong, 66, was officially proclaimed the new party boss Wednesday, along with 14 new members of the all-powerful Politburo. Trong leaves his position as head of the lawmaking National Assembly and as the party's chief Marxist theorist.

#### China toll dodger's life sentence is dropped

**BEIJING** (AP)—A Chinese farmer and gravel dealer who was sentenced to life in prison for evading more than \$560,000 in highway cargo tolls by using fake military license plates has now avoided the harsh punishment as well. After a public outcry about what was deemed harsh treatment of Shi Jianfeng and

widespread grumpiness over high tolls in general, state media said Wednesday that authorities have overturned Shi's life sentence. Shi was sentenced last week for fraud. Fake military license plates on two of his trucks that carried gravel allowed them to avoid tolls more than 2,300 times because military vehicles are exempt.

#### India oil depot fire lights up Mumbai skies

**MUMBAI, India** (AP)—An official says a major fire has burned nearly 10,500 gallons (40,000 liters) of lubricant oil at a depot of state-owned Indian Oil Corporation in western India. B.M. Bansal, the IOC chairman, says there were no casualties in the blaze that raged for nearly six hours, shooting flames into the sky on the outskirts of Mumbai, India's financial and entertainment center. A preliminary inquiry suggests that an electrical short circuit could have started the fire at the plant, which was shut for the night, Bansal told the Press Trust of India.



## World

## Haiti moves toward corruption trial for Duvalier

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti** (AP)—A judge will decide whether former Haitian dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier will be tried on charges that include corruption and embezzlement for allegedly pilfering the treasury before his 1986 ouster, a lawyer for the ex-strongman said Tuesday.

A judge questioned the former dictator known as “Baby Doc” in an hourslong, closed-door court session, defense attorney Gervais Charles said. The decision to move toward a trial makes clear that whatever Duvalier’s reasons were for returning to Haiti on Sunday, the government is poised to take the opportunity to seek justice for his 15-year regime, widely regarded as brutal and corrupt.

Charles said the case is now in the hands of a judge of instruction who

will decide whether there is enough evidence to go to trial, a process that can take up to three months.

Several hundred Duvalier supporters gathered outside the court, burning tires, chanting slogans and calling for the arrest of President Rene Preval, then cheering as Duvalier left the courthouse and headed to his hotel under police escort. Earlier, some supporters had tried to block streets with overturned trash bins and rocks to keep police from taking Duvalier from his hotel to the courthouse.

There are no signs of widespread support for Duvalier, however. Demonstrations on his behalf have been relatively small by Haiti standards. More than half the nation’s people are too young to have lived through his government.

Haiti’s system allows for pretrial detention, but Duvalier was allowed to remain free, though he cannot leave the country. His longtime companion Veronica Roy had said Monday that Duvalier expected his trip from France, where he has lived in exile, would last three days.

“If he has to leave (the country), he will ask and he will leave,” Charles said. “As of now, he doesn’t even have a passport.”

Duvalier has been accused in the past in Haiti of stealing hundreds of millions of dollars in public money and

overseeing the torture and killing of political enemies. He was not in handcuffs as he arrived at the courthouse Tuesday with Roy, nor was he handcuffed when he left.

His arrival Sunday was a surprise for a long-impooverished country, and comes as Haiti struggles to work through a dire political crisis following the problematic Nov. 28 first-round presidential election, as well as a cholera epidemic and a troubled recovery from the devastating earthquake of a year ago.

Amnesty International, Human

Rights Watch and others have urged the Haitian government to arrest Duvalier for widespread abuses. Amnesty International issued a statement praising what it called “the arrest” of Duvalier but said it was just a start.

“If true justice is to be done in Haiti, the Haitian authorities need to open a criminal investigation into Duvalier’s responsibility for the multitude of human rights abuses that were committed under his rule including torture, arbitrary detentions, rape, enforced disappearances and extrajudicial executions,” the group said.

## Haiti after the Duvaliers

Jean-Claude “Baby Doc” Duvalier and his father Francois “Papa Doc” Duvalier, who ruled Haiti with iron fists for 30 years, left a legacy of poverty, human rights abuses and alleged corruption. “Baby Doc” has now unexpectedly returned.



## The Duvalier dictatorships

**1957-1971** “Papa Doc,” with the help of his brutal secret police, the Tonton Macoutes, maintains power through intimidation and the cult of personality; upends the constitution to declare himself “president for life” and install his son as his successor

**1971-1986** Upon his father’s death, “Baby Doc” becomes the world’s youngest president at age 19; continues his father’s brutal, repressive methods, driving the country into further poverty and causing more Haitians to leave; flees following popular protests

## Political unrest

**1986-1988** Lt. Gen. Henri Namphy assumes the presidency  
**1988** Namphy loses to Leslie Manigat in an election most consider fraudulent; Manigat serves for four months before being overthrown by Namphy, who in turn is deposed in a coup led by Gen. Prosper Avril

**1988-1990** Avril serves as president; sets up civilian government under military control until being forced into exile

**1990-1991** Lt. Gen. Herard Abraham serves as acting president for three days; is followed by Ertha Pascal-Trouillot, the first woman to lead Haiti, who serves as provisional president

## Aristide’s dilemma

**1991** Following Haiti’s first free election in 1990, Jean-Bertrand Aristide becomes president, only to be ousted in a coup led by Gen. Raoul Cedras; U.S. and Organization of American States impose sanctions

**1991-1994** Cedras is unconstitutional de facto ruler until U.S. intervention forces return to civilian government; Aristide returns from exile

**1994-1996** Aristide serves as president; U.N. peacekeepers begin to replace U.S. troops

**1996-2001** Rene Preval serves first term

**2001-2004** Aristide elected to second term, but forced into exile again in 2004; armed gangs loyal to Aristide said to be responsible for political violence

**2004-2006** Boniface Alexandre serves as provisional president, serving out Aristide’s term

## Current government

**2006-2011** Preval again serves as president; a series of storms and hurricanes in 2008 and a massive earthquake in 2010 kill thousands and further impoverish the country; anger over slow reconstruction and a cholera outbreak leads to an inconclusive presidential election in November 2010; runoff scheduled for January 2011

## Tunisian ministers quit; police break up protest

**TUNIS, Tunisia** (AP)—At least four opposition ministers quit Tunisia’s day-old unity government Tuesday, aligning themselves with demonstrators who insist democratic change is impossible while so many supporters of the freshly ousted president are hoarding posts of power.

Police in riot gear forcefully put down a demonstration of the sort that toppled the North African country’s longtime autocratic leader last week, pummeling a demonstrator with batons and boot kicks - and highlighting a question on many minds: Is the new regime really much different?

As Tunisia struggles to move past the rioting, looting and score-settling that has marked the political transition, there was a growing sense Tuesday that it will be difficult for the interim government to hold together and pave the way toward elections expected within six to seven months.

After the initial exhilaration of

last week, when a populist uprising ousted President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali after 23 years in power and sent him fleeing to Saudi Arabia—sounding a warning bell for other political strongmen in the region—many are fretting about what it ultimately meant.

“I am afraid that our revolution will be stolen from me and my people. The people are asking for freedoms and this new government is not. They are the ones who oppressed the people for 23 years,” said Ines Mawdud, a 22-year-old student who was among protesters at the demonstration.

Tunisia’s outlawed Ennahdha Islamist party said its members also marched Tuesday—something that was unthinkable during the rule of Ben Ali, who banned the group in 1992 and waged an ongoing crackdown against it. Authorities had accused the group of forming a military wing to kill Ben Ali and establish a

Muslim fundamentalist state. Group leaders said their confessions were extracted through torture.

Hamadi Jebali, a spokesman for the party, told AP it wants “a chance to let the people of Tunisia choose their leaders and to have a chance to accept or reject us via the polls.”

Ben Ali was often criticized for a heavy-handed crackdown on Islamists and opponents, for curbing civil liberties and for running a police state—though he was praised for turning his country into a successful tourist haven and was an ally in the U.S. fight against terrorism.

In an attempt to distance themselves from Ben Ali, the country’s interim president and prime minister quit the ruling RCD party on Tuesday. The RCD party also kicked out Ben Ali, its founder, national television reported. It was not immediately clear how protesters would greet those moves.

## Mexico police: founding member of Zetas captured

**MEXICO CITY** (AP)—Mexico’s federal police have arrested a founding member of the brutal Zetas drug cartel, a man who controlled drug smuggling routes and the kidnapping of Central American migrants in southern Mexico, officials said Tuesday.

Flavio Mendez Santiago, 35, was arrested along with a bodyguard outside Oaxaca City. He was in charge of operations in the states of Oaxaca, Chiapas and Veracruz, said Federal police anti-drug chief Ramon Pequeno.

Pequeno said Mendez Santiago, known as “El Amarillo” or “The Yellow One,” controlled the smuggling of Central and South American migrants and was in charge of moving them to the northern states of Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas, on the border with Texas.

The Zetas are suspected in the

disappearance of more than 40 Central American migrants in Oaxaca last month. The travelers were last seen Dec. 16 near the city of Ixtepec along the sun-scorched transit route for thousands who ride northbound freight trains.

The gang is blamed for massacring 72 migrants in August in the northern state of Tamaulipas.

Mendez Santiago also controlled the main overland drug smuggling routes from Central America, Pequeno said.

Mendez Santiago, a former soldier, was recruited in 1993 by the Gulf cartel and years later served as bodyguard for then leader Osiel Cardenas Guillen.

The federal government had offered 15 million pesos, about \$1.2 million, for information leading to his arrest.

Formed from a small group of elite

soldiers based in Tamaulipas who deserted to work for the Gulf drug cartel, the Zetas earned their notoriety for brutality by becoming the first to publicly display their beheaded rivals.

The Zetas began gaining independence from the Gulf cartel after Cardenas Guillen’s extradition to the U.S. in 2006 and finally split from their former bosses last year. They have since been fighting for control of northeast Mexico, the traditional home base of the Gulf cartel.

That fight raged on Tuesday.

Five mutilated bodies were dumped in the central plaza of the small town of Montemorelos southwest of the industrial city of Monterrey, according to spokesman for Nuevo Leon state Public Safety Department, which oversees police.

## WORLD BRIEFS

## Corruption probe targets 4 Russian officials

**LONDON** (AP)—British police said Tuesday they are investigating corruption allegations against four Russian officials working at an international financial institution based in London. The institution—the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development—also said it has removed the diplomatic immunity of the four employees at the request of Britain’s Foreign Office and Russian authori-

ties to aid police investigations in both countries. The EBRD is working closely with police as part of the investigation, a spokeswoman for the City of London Police said. She declined to give more details on the allegations.

## US objects to Bolivia bid for licit coca-chewing

**BOGOTA, Colombia** (AP)—The United States will file a formal objection Wednesday to Bolivia’s proposal to end

the ban on coca leaf-chewing specified by a half-century-old U.N. treaty, according to a senior U.S. government official. “We hope that a number of other countries will file as well,” the official told The Associated Press on Tuesday. He spoke on condition he not be further identified, citing the topic’s political sensitivity. Despite being stigmatized as the raw material of cocaine, coca leaves have been chewed by indigenous peoples in the Andes for centuries.



## Focus

## For world's newest states, road ahead can be hard

By CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

*Editor's Note: Associated Press correspondent Christopher Torchia covered the bloody aftermath of East Timor's struggle for independence from Indonesia, and is based in Turkey, whose Ottoman ancestors ruled Kosovo, also newly independent. Now, as Southern Sudan votes on whether to declare statehood, he explores the challenges that face states born in the 21st century.*

When East Timor voted for independence in 1999, militia loyal to the departing Indonesian rulers went on a rampage that took more than 1,000 lives. War engulfed Kosovo in the late 1990s after it said it was splitting from Serbia, and some 10,000 people died.

Then, as the grieving and the euphoria quieted, the hard and often divisive work of nation-building began. The struggle continues, more than a decade later.

If, as is widely expected, Southern Sudan has opted for independence in the weeklong referendum that ended Saturday, it will become the latest land to grasp statehood in the wake of violent upheaval.

How well will it work? A half-century ago, the world had dozens of examples to study as countries around the globe won their independence from European colonial powers. But today the addition of a new country to the world map is something unusual. So while comparisons can only be imprecise, the first steps of East Timor and Kosovo offer some guidance about the challenges facing the battered yet exultant people of Southern Sudan.

"The expectations of independence are always very high," said Australian academic Damien Kingsbury, noting that the administrators of a new country inevitably lack skills and resources. "The first few years are almost always pretty shaky."

The rough contours in all three cases—southern Sudan in Africa, the far smaller and less populous East Timor in Southeast Asia and Kosovo in the Balkans—are similar: former minorities shaking off a legacy of repression marked by ethnic and religious divides, and hindered by poverty and internal tensions despite international support.

In an even broader sense, the hardship of each raises questions about what makes a nation, if institutions and infrastructure are poorly equipped to handle the responsibilities of statehood in places where borders were drawn by long-gone empires.

In Southern Sudan, the symbol of secession, a hand with an open palm, was not just on the

ballot slips; it festoons walls, vehicles and T-shirts, an indicator of enthusiasm for breaking with the north after a 2005 peace deal that ended two decades of civil war. If Sudan splits, the burdens of state that await the south will entail border demarcation, citizenship, security, education, law and accountability, and of oil and cattle-grazing rights in one of the world's poorest regions.

One big plus is the promise of Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir, whose base is the mostly Muslim north, that he will accept the referendum results, where most people are Christian

leaves you in international limbo," said Tim Judah, author of two books about the new country of 1.8 million. "You're not a state among equals."

In East Timor's case, Indonesia, emerging from a long dictatorship, agreed under pressure to a U.N.-backed referendum in the former Portuguese colony that it had invaded and occupied in 1975. After East Timorese voted overwhelmingly to separate, the rampage condoned by Indonesia destroyed much of the territory's limited infrastructure.

"We are going to start from below zero," Jose Ramos Horta,

The hardship of each raises questions about what makes a nation, if institutions and infrastructure are poorly equipped to handle the responsibilities of statehood.

or animist. If the pledge is honored, and African states lead the way toward international recognition, a huge hurdle will have been overcome.

But it could take a long time, as Kosovo has learned. Since declaring independence in 2008 with Western support, it has been recognized by well under half the U.N. membership.

Some have concerns about separatist movements on their own turf and worry about setting self-damaging precedents. Spain faces Basque and Catalan separatism. Russia has Chechnya, China has Tibet, India has Kashmir.

For a country like Kosovo, "It

a Nobel peace prize winner who is now president of East Timor, said at the time.

The U.N. launched one of the most expensive nation-building projects in history but still drew criticism for scaling back too early. The country declared independence in 2002 in an ecstatic show of music and fireworks, but factional violence erupted four years later, forcing international peacekeepers to patrol the streets once again.

Southern Sudan, whose estimated population ranges between 7.5 million and 9.7 million, suffered the vast majority of deaths in the civil war—some 2 million, many from disease and



In this Oct. 28, 1998 file photo, ethnic Albanian women mourn over the body of their relative, 20 year-old Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) soldier Ali Murat Pacarizi, in the village of Dragobil, Kosovo. Ali was killed, October 27, 1998 while trying to defuse a booby trap left by Serb forces that earlier withdrew from the area.

famine. Since the 2005 deal is has prepared to some extent for statehood, but its autonomous institutions are weak and there are concerns that its own ethnic groups will compete for power and resources. Actor George Clooney's campaigning may have raised Sudan's profile, but any hope of long-term success would require many years of heavy international involvement.

"If you think that intervention, or a referendum, is all it takes, you're sorely mistaken," said David Phillips, a former U.S. State Department official who has worked on post-conflict transitions in Sudan, East Timor and Kosovo. "These countries need a lot of help with state-building and to become economically viable."

Phillips warned that new countries with weak govern-

nance are prone to corruption, especially if they benefit from the windfall of newly acquired resources. Most of Sudan's oil reserves are in the south, which would be dependent on the north for export routes.

East Timor, population 1 million, is praised for establishing a fund to manage revenues from offshore oil and gas reserves, but remains desperately poor with fragile political institutions.

Landlocked Kosovo, a key concern for the European Union, avoided the chaos that some predicted after NATO bombing forced its Serbian rulers to yield and it began nearly a decade as a U.N. protectorate. But it has few natural resources, ties between its ethnic Albanian majority and Serb minority are tense, and its image as a criminal haven deepened after a Eu-

ropean investigator alleged that Prime Minister Hashim Thaci once headed a ring trafficking in human organs.

Thaci denies it, and some commentators say Serbia's legitimacy as a nation should be judged just as harshly because of its war crimes record.

"What so often happens, once independence is achieved, (is that) all of the conflicts that existed below the surface, and were put aside so you can fight a common enemy, then have a tendency to come out," said Prof. Hurst Hannum, an international law expert at Central European University in Budapest, Hungary. "These states are, after all, artificial."

Croatian historian Ivo Banac said a prolonged independence struggle serves as a "basic element of identity" for a new state, and that countries in the Balkans looked for "lines of continuity" to medieval precursors swallowed up by Habsburg and Ottoman rulers. Similarly, he said, Scottish separatists look to their history as a sovereign state before Scotland and England became one kingdom in 1707.

Southern Sudan's clan-based, mostly pastoral population had no such political structure two centuries ago, when it fell under Egyptian and British rule.

But sometimes unexpected unifying themes turn up. East Timor, a tiny slice of island in the vast Indonesian archipelago, is a separate country today in large part because for centuries it was a Portuguese colony. After Indonesia seized East Timor, it banned the Portuguese language. And when the struggle for independence reached its peak, a battle cry of the separatists was "A luta continua!" That means "The struggle continues"—in Portuguese.



In this Wednesday, Oct. 20, 1999 file picture, an East Timorese man tries to keep residents in line as they mob a queue for daily rations of rice in the capital of Dili, East Timor.



# Environment

## Maguire daisy removed from endangered species list

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Fish and Wildlife said yesterday that the Maguire daisy will be removed from the list of threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act, highlighting a 25-year conservation effort involving a number of federal agencies.

The population of the daisy was known to number seven plants when it was listed as endangered in 1985 but now numbers 163,000 plants within 10 populations in southeastern Utah's Emery, Wayne and Garfield Counties. It is the 21st species to be delisted due to recovery.

"The delisting of the Maguire daisy shows that the Endangered Species Act is an effective tool not only to save species from the brink of extinction but also to recover them to healthy populations," said assistant secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks Tom Strickland. "Working in partnership with other federal agencies, state and local govern-



A member of the sunflower family, the Maguire daisy (*Erigeron maguirei*) is a perennial herb with dime-sized white or pink flowers.

ments, and other partners, we can ensure irreplaceable plants and animals such as the Maguire daisy and the habitat they depend upon are preserved for future generations."

"This recovery is another success for the Endangered Species Act and would not have been possible if not for the commitment of multiple federal land management agencies," said Stephen Guertin, regional direc-

tor of the Service's Mountain-Prairie Region.

A member of the sunflower family, the Maguire daisy (*Erigeron maguirei*) is a perennial herb with dime-sized white or pink flowers. Since the plant was listed, federal land management agencies have worked to ensure the long-term protection of the Maguire daisy and its habitat. Cooperative recovery efforts have substantially increased the known number and distribution of Maguire daisy populations range-wide, addressed threats and provided adequate protection and management to ensure the plant's long-term persistence.

The best scientific information available indicates the Maguire daisy no longer meets the ESA definition of threatened or endangered. An endangered species is one considered in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. A threatened species is one that is likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future.

The ESA provides a critical safety net for America's native fish, wildlife and plants. This landmark conservation law has prevented the extinction of hundreds of imperiled species across the nation and promoted the recovery of many others.

Approximately 99 percent of Maguire daisies occur on federal lands, and now most of these lands have substantial protective measures in place.

The next step is a minimum 10-year monitoring period. Monitoring would include the collection of information on population trends and potential threat factors (none of which are believed serious at this time). Should a decline be detected at any point, the Service will work with partners to determine what measures need to be imple-

mented to reverse the decline. Although not anticipated, if at any time during the monitoring program information indicates that protective status under the Act should be reinstated, the Service can initiate listing procedures including, if appropriate, an emergency listing.

Native plants are important for their ecological, economic, and aesthetic values. Plants play an important role in development of crops that resist disease, insects, and drought. At least 25 percent of prescription drugs contain ingredients derived from plant compounds, including medicine to treat cancer, heart disease, juvenile leukemia, and malaria, and to assist in organ transplants. Plants are also used to develop natural pesticides.

Other U.S. and U.S. territorial species that have, to date, recovered enough to be removed from listing under the ESA, and the dates of their delistings, are as follows: Brown pelican (Atlantic coast population 1985, rest of the range in 2009), Virginia northern flying squirrel (2008), Bald Eagle (2007), Eggert's sunflower (2005), Tinian Monarch (2004), Columbian white-tailed deer (Douglas County Population, 2003), Hoover's woolly-star (2003), Robbins' cinquefoil (2002), Aleutian Canada goose (2001), American peregrine falcon (1999), eastern gray kangaroo (1995), western gray kangaroo (1995), red kangaroo (1995), Arctic peregrine falcon (1994), gray whale (eastern North Pacific (California) population, 1994), American alligator (1987), Palau ground dove (1985), Palau fantail flycatcher (1985), and the Palau owl (1985).

The final rule will be published in the *Federal Register* on Jan. 19, 2010. (DOI)

### DO YOUR PART

## Are your carpets cause for concern?

By TERRI BENNETT  
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

I recently received an email from Mimi V. asking an important question about carpets. She wrote, "I dread it but I need to think about either cleaning all of my old carpets or putting new carpet in and want to be careful about my choice. I want to avoid breathing in toxic fumes. Suggestions?"

You bet!

These days, we are inundated with ads from retailers selling rugs and carpets. Do Your Part while shopping for the best deal on carpet and make sure it's also the healthiest choice for your indoor environment.

Carpet and the adhesives used to install it can be a leading source of indoor air pollution. And it's not just about the kind you choose but also how you clean it.

Ninety percent of the carpet sold today is made up of synthetic fibers such as nylon, polypropylene, and polyester, which are created from chemical processes using oil and natural gas. These types of carpeting release volatile organic compounds—or VOCs—into the air we breathe.

VOCs are known health hazards that can cause everything from asthma to cancer. The same is true for many types of adhesives used during carpet installation.

Fortunately there are more choices than ever when it comes to shopping for an eco-friendly carpet and adhesives. You can find carpets made from all kinds of renewable sources like wool, jute, and seagrass. Look for ones that have not been treated with any pesticides, mildewicides or stain repellents, which are

all chemicals that can be hazardous to your health. You can also find synthetic fiber carpets and adhesives that are tested to emit the lowest levels of VOCs. These products will carry the "Green Label" logo from the Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI), a nonprofit trade association representing the US carpet industry.

When it's time to clean your carpet, the best advice is to know your cleaner. Whether you do it yourself or hire a service, know what's being used on your carpet. This is especially true if you have children crawling on the floor. You can find a number of eco-friendly carpet cleaners and cleaning products that will make your job a bit easier. You also want to make sure that rugs cleaned using water dry in just a few hours to prevent mold from growing in the carpets or pad. Mold is a common cause of allergies and asthma attacks and if it gets into your carpet it's hard to remove.

And finally when it's time to dispose of the carpet in your home there are recycling options. Visit Carpet-Recovery.org to find a recycler near you. A number of charities will also accept donations of gently used carpet. Just be sure to call first.

Remember, shopping for carpet shouldn't be just about what looks good and feels good. Your choice should also include how healthy it is for you, your family and our planet.

*Terri Bennett is a veteran TV meteorologist, syndicated columnist, and host of DoYourPart.com where you can find everyday green living ideas that are better for you and the planet. Send questions to terri@doyourpart.com.*



TERRI BENNETT ENTERPRISES/MCT

There are more choices than ever when it comes to shopping for an eco-friendly carpet and adhesives. You can find carpets made from all kinds of renewable sources like wool, jute, and seagrass.

### ON THE NET

- Final rule: <http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/species/plants/maguiredaisy/>
- Endangered Species program: <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/>

## 2011 Green Bulletin Newsletter now available

The Green Bulletin is a quarterly newsletter featuring environmental volunteer opportunities, information and tips. It is produced at the CNMI Division of Environmental Quality, with cooperation from partnering agencies and orga-

nizations, for the Coral Reef Initiative with funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Coral Reef Conservation Program. To read up on the latest edition, visit <http://deq.gov.mp/article.aspx?secID=3&artID=202>.



# Life & Style

## Footloose 5: a DVD-land visit

By **JAIME VERGARA**  
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

(Footloose is the writer's walking-level perspective. Those looking for Footloose 3, it did not make print. It was about New Year's eve fireworks in my neighborhood and with the New Year's edition three days later, the break was too long and other more weighty submittals too many that we never caught up. The photos we took were not spectacular nor clear as we shot on natural lighting, but if interested, let us know by email and we can forward you a copy: jrvargarajr2031@aol.com.)

The long MLK weekend allowed us to catch-up with our DVD viewing, which we do not do too often but being no longer a TV subscriber, it comes in handy in the lull of the weather. We walked to the video store while mulling over "Dear Martin," to locate a Kevin Spacey Abramoff movie. We thought we finally located a copy but

we got the documentary *Casino Jack and the United States of Money* with real footage of Abramoff, Scanlon, and Delay and see/hear local color from the likes of the last four guys—Lang, Teno, Babauta, and Uncle Ben—along with Pam Brown and Jim Benedetto, who are not portrayed as bad gal/guy for a change! Uncle Ben, of course, was not guy yet, but hey, just go and rent out the docufilm! And the movie when it comes, too!

Theatre movie is actually more costly than renting DVDs. A movie costs \$5.75 to us seniors (\$7.50 regular) plus \$3 taxi one way if we walk the two-mile distance from Finasisu downhill on Msgr. Guerrero to the theatre. We rented five and got two extra for \$10 (\$2 each), kept the set for five days. Not a bad deal especially since we can walk to Hollywood's on Msgr. Martinez, or Kevin's at Joeten Dandan. Our choices were the following in the order viewed: 1) *Casino Jack and the U.S. of Money*, 2) *The Green Zone*, 3)

*Unthinkable*, 4) *The Ghostwriter*, 5) *Princess Ka'iulani*, 6) *Sex and the City 2*, and 7) *Extraordinary Measures*.

There was no rhyme or reason for the selection other than our curiosity on *Casino Jack*; they happened to be the ones available at the time I was at the shop, other than the 80 percent of terror and horror offerings, or sentimentalized superstitions and romanticized wizardlies. Like everything else, when one pauses long enough to lace up one's shoes, thoughts inevitably pour out, and such was our experience while viewing our videos on a "day on" rather "day off" mode.

Matt Damon in *Green Zone* (name for the American enclave in Baghdad by the Tigris) plays a chief warrant officer in search of WMDs and finds the intelligence faulty, affirming what has been leveled against the use of WMDs as a rationale for invading Iraq and deposing Saddam. The *Bourne Identity* team with its vaunted handheld camera view that puts viewer in the



JAIME VERGARA

Warning: Seemingly innocuous DVDs on your neighborhood video shop shelves may actually take your psyche for a spin. Be aware of your mental health!

midst of the action and Damon were severely criticized for giving credence to a 2006 documentary narrative of the allegation.

Cynical Roman Polanski in *The Ghost (Writer)* was added in the U.S. release) has a CIA recruited student-actor-turned-politico become England's PM, does his handlers bidding once, and retires in the U.S. with the support of military-industrial company called Hatherton, until a ghost writer for the PM's memoirs is killed. A powerful cast of Pierce Brosnan, Ewan McGregor, Kim Cattrall, and Andrea Williams deliver this lame drama-thriller that fuels rumors of Halliburton and the CIA's role in the PM's office (Major and/or Blair).

Samuel Jackson brings nitty-gritty and painfully detailed portrayal of a torture specialist and brings to fore the inevitable

conflict within the American psyche between its ethical virtues and the reality of intentional terrorism. In the psychodrama *Unthinkable*, an otherwise decent American Muslim recently abandoned by wife and children arms three nuclear bombs and Jackson's character has five days to elicit information by all means necessary. As in real life, the movie projects the unsettling truth that the values we use to make decisions daily is not based on carefully rationalized ethics but on what we perceive to be necessary. The context we carry is of paramount importance.

Being in a group of islands whose primary raison d'être is its strategic military location for the U.S. Armed Forces makes the film *Princess Ka'iulani* relevant, and personally so since my primary residence is the State of Hawaii. The film

is about the "Merrie Monarch" King David Kalakaua's niece who was to be queen but Hawaii's missionary sons and sugar kings' demands made the illusions of paradise isles a tragic historical footnote. Still, the U.S. Navy's actions in Pearl Harbor also heavily influenced the future of the Marianas and the Philippines. We obviously will have to revisit this film some other time.

Kim Cattrall is one of the *Sex and the City 2* girls. When her character identified a dude as the "Lawrence of my Labia," I realized how far "I am Woman" have cum (sorry about the cheap shot), and how old I have grown. What can we say? Will most likely pass up "liberated" girl movies awhile.

But being a father with two autistic kids, *Extraordinary Measures* powerfully delivered a punch felt below the belt. Harrison Ford produced and acted as a cranky and eccentric bioscience researcher based on the work of William Canfield who in the real life assisted biotech entrepreneur John Crowley to deal with a neuromuscular condition called Pompe disease that afflicted two of his kids. An inspiring movie I recommend to parents of the autism and differently-abled community.

Need to recover before trekking over to the video shop again.

## HK director updates 1982 'The Shaolin Temple'

**HONG KONG (AP)**—It's the kung fu classic that launched the career of a then little-known 17-year-old Chinese martial arts champion called Jet Li.

Nearly three decades later, "The Shaolin Temple" has received a blockbuster update, with the backing of the famous center of fighting monks of the title and the setting of the 1982 release. Veteran Hong Kong action director Benny Chan has written a new story and cast some of the biggest names in Chinese cinema—Jackie Chan, Andy Lau, Nicholas Tse and Fan Bingbing.

It is the latest screen portrayal

of the 1,500-year-old Shaolin Temple in central China, whose kung fu monks have featured in many TV series and movies. But the 2011 version is only the second to be authorized by temple officials.

Benny Chan, who directed Jackie Chan in some of his recent Hong Kong action thrillers including "Who Am I?" "New Police Story" and "Rob-B-Hood," is unabashed about being a crowd-pleaser.

"I am a commercial director. I am not an art-house director. I don't know how to create very artistic shots. I don't know how to shoot slowly,"

Chan told The Associated Press in a recent interview.

But fans who are expecting an action-packed extravaganza must think twice. Unlike the 1982 original, which featured trademark Shaolin-style moves, the Hong Kong filmmaker said his focus is drama—not kung fu. And when the flashy action sequences do come into play, Chan says he asked the choreographer—veteran Corey Yuen—to imbue them with what he calls the spirit of "Zen fighting," which he characterizes as a composed fighting style that stresses personal development over violence.

### STYLE BRIEFS

#### Finland eyes site for Guggenheim museum

**HELSINKI (AP)**—The mayor of Helsinki says the city has commissioned the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation to explore the possibility of building a museum in the Finnish capital. Jussi Pajunen says the feasibility study will cost \$2.5 million and take a year to complete. Richard Armstrong, the director of the New York-based Guggenheim foundation and museum, said Tuesday it is "a very compelling opportunity to continue our investigations into the possibilities of global interchange." The organization has museums in Germany, Italy and Spain. If Helsinki's bid is successful, the earliest the museum could open in the city of some 600,000 people would be in 2017.

#### NYC Ballet chief pleads guilty in bad-driving case

**YONKERS, New York (AP)**—A New York City Ballet leader accused of driving while intoxicated has pleaded guilty to a lesser charge. Yonkers City Court clerk Nina Azeez says ballet master in chief Peter Martins on Tuesday admitted driving while ability impaired. She says he was fined \$300 and released. The 64-year-old Martins was arrested New Year's Day at a police checkpoint near his

home, just north of New York City. Police say his Bentley drifted from its lane at the checkpoint and hit a curb. They say he failed a sobriety test and refused a breath test. The ballet company says it's glad the case is resolved. Martins joined the ballet company as a principal dancer in 1970 and became sole director in 1989.

#### Texas foundation to sell Matisse set 'The Backs'

**DALLAS (AP)**—A Texas foundation is selling four Henri Matisse sculptures known as "The Backs." The Burnett Foundation acquired the large relief sculptures in 1982. The Fort Worth foundation focuses on supporting health, education, human services and art initiatives. Its executive director, Neils Agather, says its mission is to support community activities, not own art. He says the sculptures are worth so much that the foundation can't justify keeping them. The sculptures depict a woman's backside progressing from realistic to abstract. Sotheby's is organizing a private sale. Spokeswoman Diana Phillips said the auction house would not comment on the estimated value or disclose the eventual sale price because the sale is private. In November, a "Back IV" sold at auction at Christie's for more than \$48 million.

## In Celebration of Her New Life

### Jesusa Mendiola de Leon

Familian "Kan"/"Damo"  
February 27, 1963 - January 13, 2011

of DanDan, Saipan was called Home by our Heavenly Father on Thursday, January 13, 2011 at the age of 47.

Holy Mass is being offered at 6:00 pm from Thursday, 01/13 to Friday, 01/21 at San Antonio Church and Holy Rosary is being prayed immediately after the Mass.

*In Her New Life, She now joins Her:*

Parents: Felisa Muna Aguon Mendiola, Leocadio Castro Mendiola

Parent-In-Law: Loreta Miranda de Leon

Brother: Jose Aguon Mendiola

*She will be dearly missed and remembered in the hearts of her:*

**Husband:** Jaime de Leon

**Children & Grand Children:** Sarah M. de Leon/Arthur Levy B. Agulto (Danny William, Daniel Jr., Danmar, Buffy, Lily, Ta'ga'), Israel M./Jennalyn Betonio de Leon (Israel Junior), Jerbeth M. de Leon/Richard Flores (Riley Jae), Isabelle de Leon Navarro/Jefrey Navarro (Cassie Nicole)

**Brothers, Sisters, and Spouses:** Jesus A./Agnes DLR. Mendiola and Children, Vicente A./Eleanor T. Mendiola and Children, Ramon A./Lydia T. Mendiola and Children, Ana M. Naholawaa and Children, Jose A./Magdalena S. Mendiola and Children, Noberto A./Imelda R. Mendiola and Children, Francisco A. Mendiola/Shirley Muna and Children, Leocadio A./Belinda B. Mendiola and Children, Candido A. Mendiola/Judy M. Flores and Children, Francisca M./Roman V. Reyes and Children, Mary Ann M./Michael J. Kiyoshi and Children

Her memories will be also cherished by numerous uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces, nephews, and godchildren.

On Saturday, January 22, 2011 at 7:30am, her remains will be escorted from Borja Funeral Home to San Antonio Church. Viewing and last respects will be held from 8:00am to 10:30am. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am followed by interment service at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Your prayers and presence are greatly appreciated.

**Jaime de Leon and Children**



# 'King's Speech' gets 14 nominations for UK awards

By JILL LAWLESS  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON (AP)—Made-in-England favorite "The King's Speech" leads the race for the British Academy Film Awards, Britain's equivalent of the Oscars, with 14 nominations announced Tuesday, including best picture.

Colin Firth is the best-actor front-runner for his performance as stuttering monarch King George VI, with Geoffrey Rush nominated for best supporting actor as the unconventional speech therapist who treated him. Helena Bonham Carter is up for best supporting actress for playing the king's wife, the Queen Mother Elizabeth.

The film faces strong competition from psychosexual ballet thriller "Black Swan," which has 12 nominations, and mind-bending saga "Inception," with

nine. Endurance story "127 Hours" and Coen brothers Western "True Grit" have eight nominations each.

"The King's Speech," which shows the monarch struggling to find his voice as his nation faces its greatest test during World War II, has struck a popular chord with its humanizing depiction of the British royal family, drawing ovations from audiences at some screenings.

The modestly budgeted production, which has already earned more than \$50 million at the box office in the U.S. and Britain, was partly funded by the U.K. Film Council, a government body that has been abolished by Prime Minister David Cameron's Conservative-led coalition.

Firth, 50, won a best-actor trophy at Sunday's Golden Globes in Los Angeles, and the latest nomination gives him extra momen-



Firth

turn going into the Oscars. A win would be Firth's second BAFTA in a row—he took the acting prize last year for "A Single Man."

"The Social Network," the story of the founding of Facebook, has six nominations including best picture; Aaron Sorkin's screenplay; and David Fincher's direction. Jesse Eisenberg received a best actor nomination for his turn as Facebook's college-student

founder Mark Zuckerberg.

As well as "The King's Speech" and "The Social Network," the best-picture nominees are "Black Swan," "Inception" and "True Grit."

The separate category of best British film pits "The King's Speech" against "127 Hours," "Another Year," "Four Lions" and "Made in Dagenham."

The best-actor contenders are Firth, Eisenberg, James Franco for "127 Hours," Javier Bardem for "Biutiful" and Jeff Bridges for "True Grit."

Annette Bening and Julianne Moore are both best-actress

nominees for "The Kids Are All Right," along with Natalie Portman for "Black Swan," Noomi Rapace for "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo" and Hailee Steinfeld for "True Grit."

Best-director nominees are Fincher for "The Social Network," Tom Hooper for "The King's Speech," Danny Boyle for "127 Hours," Darren Aronofsky for "Black Swan" and Christopher Nolan for "Inception."

Elusive graffiti artist Banksy is nominated for outstanding debut by a British writer, director or producer for directing the faux documentary "Exit

Through The Gift Shop."

Pete Postlethwaite, who died earlier this month, is nominated posthumously in the best supporting actor category for his role as an Irish-American gangster in "The Town."

The British awards, known as BAFTAs, will be handed out at London's Royal Opera House on Feb. 13, two weeks before the Academy Awards in Hollywood, and are considered an important indicator of likely Oscar success.

Last year, Iraq war drama "The Hurt Locker" won six BAFTAs, including best picture—then repeated the feat at the Oscars.

## Gervais stands his ground over Globes performance

By LYNN ELBER  
AP TELEVISION WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Academy Award hosts Anne Hathaway and James Franco are unlikely to be seeking tips from Ricky Gervais.

The British comedian was brash, profane and cruelly funny at Sunday's Golden Globes, delivering his trademark humor as promised for the Hollywood Foreign Press Association in his second go-round as host of the ceremony.

At its heart, pairing the right host with the right awards show is a delicate form of matchmaking. The relationship should be unpredictable but not self-destructive, capturing TV viewers and Nielsen ratings without alienating the stars who come to be celebrated.

More than a few brave hosts have discovered how daunting the brief affair can be. That includes David Letterman, who has yet to shed memories of his bumpy 1995 Oscar gig that included an oddball phonetics bit mocking the names of Uma Thurman and Oprah Winfrey.

"Ricky Gervais was the host of the (Globes) show—very funny guy," Letterman said on his late-night CBS show Monday. "But there's already talk that he'll never be invited back, and I say, 'Hey, welcome to the club.'"

At the 2008 Emmy Awards, there was a misguided attempt to pay homage to reality TV by letting five of the genre's hosts, including Heidi Klum of "Project Runway" and Jeff Probst of "Survivor," share the emcee job. Their dull joint act bombed, with presenter Jimmy Kimmel dryly complimenting them for being "sufficient."

Gervais was anything but boring. Unlike last year, however, when he slyly mocked actors as a class by calling them "the most important people on the planet," he turned very personal.

His targets Sunday included Bruce Willis, the stars of "Sex and the City" and Robert Downey Jr., who retorted onstage, jokingly or not, "Aside from the fact that it's been hugely mean-spirited, with mildly sinister undertones, I'd say the vibe of the show is pretty good so far, wouldn't you?"

One of the sharper jabs was at the Golden Globes' own expense: Gervais joked about a lawsuit by a former publicist for the HFPA that alleges the group engages in payola schemes for nominations and awards.

Gervais initially struck a brave tone on his website, saying he "enjoyed the Globes more this year. I think I had better gags." He also rejected as "rubbish" the rumor that he was censored as the show progressed. But on Tuesday, he admitted verging on self-doubt in the face of criticism.

"Thanks to the twitterverse, the blogosphere, all the journo and the coolest stars for coming to my rescue," he said in a posting at rickygervais.com. "It was heartwarming to realise I wasn't losing my mind. Some reactions nearly had me believing I'd



Gervais

gone too far too. Nearly."

Among his boosters was Elizabeth Banks ("30 Rock," "W"), who tweeted, "I thought RG was hilarious. Actors can take it. We have thick skins."

"Have you noticed that nobody remembers the winners of the Golden Globes—but they do remember Ricky Gervais," Regis Philbin said Tuesday on his daytime talk show (on which he also announced his retirement).

The HFPA largely stood by its man, issuing the merest squeak of official displeasure over Gervais zingers, which included, "It's going to be a night of partying and heavy drinking. Or as Charlie Sheen calls it—breakfast." HFPA President Philip Berk also told The Hollywood Reporter that Gervais was not warned about his performance or kept off-air during the broadcast.

"We loved the show. It was a lot of fun and obviously has a lot of people talking," the association said in a statement, noting that Gervais is expected to deliver "in

your face, sometimes outrageous material. Certainly, in this case, he pushed the envelope and occasionally went too far."

But the group, which said "overall" it was pleased and called the show "among the best we've ever had," said it hadn't made a decision about whether Gervais would be invited back next year. Also facing the HFPA in the months ahead is a decision on who will broadcast the Globes next year. Its contract with NBC expired with this year's show.

Meanwhile, the producers gearing up for the Jan. 25 Oscar nominations announcement and Feb. 27 Academy Awards broadcast have signaled plans for a far different ceremony.

Choosing co-hosts who are respected actors, non-comedians and include a potential nominee—Franco for "127 Hours"—makes a decorous evening likely for the film awards that remain Hollywood's main self-congratulatory event.

"We have the reputation of the predominant American art form to protect and spread the message to the world," said Don Mischer, who is producing the ceremony with Bruce Cohen. "This will be watched by billions of people when you put it all together, so you do feel that sense of responsibility."

Filmmaker Judd Apatow ("Knocked Up," "Superbad"), who will host the Producers Guild of America Awards on Jan. 22, took a friendly jab at Gervais online and started a Twitter campaign to gather better jokes for his gig.

Calling "mean too lazy for RG," Apatow invited followers to post jokes better than Gervais' and promised the "winners" a shout-out at the non-televised awards show. The entries, he tweeted later, demonstrate that "it's hard to be funny and not vicious. Steve Martin is king."

Whether Gervais gets a third call to headline the Globes may be determined more by a number than his one-liners. The broadcast attracted nearly 17 million viewers, according to "fast-national" Nielsen figures released Monday, and was NBC's most-watched prime-time entertainment telecast among advertiser-favored young adult viewers since last year's Globes.

## HOLLYWOOD THEATERS

Don't just go to the movies, GO HOLLYWOOD!

Located near Price Costco in San Jose Saipan MP • 234-9000



**\$5.75 Bargain Matinees - All Shows Before 6PM**  
**\$5.75 All Day Admission For Seniors**  
**\$4.50 All Day Admission For Kids (ages 3-11)**  
**\$5.75 Student Admission with Valid I.D.**  
**\$5.75 Military with Valid I.D.**

**T TIMEWARP TUESDAY \$5.75 ALL SHOWS ALL DAY/NIGHT (EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS AND RESTRICTED FEATURES)**

RESERVE TICKETS ONLINE AT **www.gohollywood.com**



For Friday, January 14<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
**OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK**



**NOW SHOWING**



### The Green Hornet

Friday 4:00 7:00 9:30  
 Sat & Sun 1:00 4:00 7:30 9:30  
 Monday 1:00 4:00 7:00  
 Tues thru Thurs 4:00 7:00

**Seth Rogen, Cameron Diaz**  
 Comedy • Rated PG 13

### Synopsis

By day, Britt Reid (Seth Rogen) is a millionaire publisher and popular media figure, but by night, Reid assumes the identity of fearless crime fighter The Green Hornet and teams with his trusted sidekick, Kato (Stephen Chow), to keep the streets safe for average citizens. Producer Neal H. Moritz spearheads this big-screen adaptation of the popular radio serial, comic book, film, and television series originated by Lone Ranger creators Fran Striker and George W. Trendle.



### Gulliver's Travels

Friday 4:30 7:30 9:55  
 Sat & Sun 1:30 4:30 7:30 9:55  
 Monday 1:30 4:30 7:30  
 Tues thru Thurs 4:30 7:30

**Jack Black, Emily Blunt**  
 Comedy, Fantasy • Rated PG

### Synopsis

Jack Black stars in the 20th Century Fox adaptation of Jonathan Swift's Gulliver's Travels with this fantasy-filled comedic production. This take on the timeless tale revolves around a shipwrecked journalist (Black) who discovers an island in the heart of the Bermuda Triangle where he is the biggest occupant in comparison to its tiny inhabitants. Shark Tale's Rob Letterman directs from a script by Forgetting Sarah Marshall's Nick Stoller and Joe Stillman (Shrek).



### Season of the Witch

Friday 4:10 7:10 9:50  
 Sat & Sun 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:50  
 Monday 1:10 4:10 7:10  
 Tues thru Thurs 4:10 7:10

**Nicolas Cage, Ron Perlman**  
 Thriller • Rated PG 13

### Synopsis

Director Dominic Sena reenlists his Gone in 60 Seconds star Nicolas Cage on this 14th century supernatural thriller for Relativity Media. As the Black Plague spreads across Europe, a group of knights are enlisted to help give safe passage to a girl whose alleged powers of witchcraft are suspected to be the cause of the deadly pandemic.



### Little Fockers

Friday 4:20 7:20 9:40  
 Sat & Sun 1:20 4:20 7:20 9:40  
 Monday 1:20 4:20 7:20  
 Tues thru Thurs 4:20 7:20

**Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller**  
 Comedy • Rated PG 13



### True Grit

Friday 4:25 7:25 9:35  
 Sat & Sun 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:35  
 Monday 1:25 4:25 7:25  
 Tues thru Thurs 4:25 7:25

**Jeff Bridges, Matt Damon**  
 Western • Rated PG 13



### Tron Legacy

Friday 4:05 7:05 9:45  
 Sat & Sun 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:45  
 Monday 1:05 4:05 7:05  
 Tues thru Thurs 4:05 7:05

**Garrett Hedlund, Jeff Bridges**  
 Science, Fiction • Rated PG



### The Chronicles of Narnia: Voyage of the Dawn Treader

Friday 4:15 7:15 10:00  
 Sat & Sun 1:15 4:15 7:15 10:00  
 Monday 1:15 4:15 7:15  
 Tues thru Thurs 4:15 7:15

**Georgie Henley, Ben Barnes**  
 Fantasy, Children's, Family • Rated PG

● NO PASSES ■ NO PASSES OR SUPER SAVERS

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE • R-RATED FILMS REQUIRE PHOTO I.D.

**www.gohollywood.com**



# Motley Crue singer gets 2-week jail sentence

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Motley Crue singer Vince Neil will take a plea deal and serve two weeks of jail time, plus two weeks of house arrest, for driving drunk in his Lamborghini last summer near the Las Vegas Strip.

Neil agreed Tuesday to plead guilty to misdemeanor driving under the influence when he appears before a Las Vegas judge on Jan. 26, said Tess Driver, an aide to Clark County District Attorney David Roger.

Neil's publicist, Jill Siegel, released a statement on Neil's behalf.

"I have recognized that you can't drink and drive at all," it said.

Neil's lawyer, David Chesnoff, noted that Neil could have faced up to six months in jail and said there were legal



**Neil**

defenses to the charge.

"Mr. Neil recognized that he needed to take responsibility for his actions," Chesnoff said.

Driver said Neil is scheduled to begin serving his sentence Feb. 15. That will be a week af-

ter Neil's 50th birthday.

Police said Neil was stopped in his black sports car late June 27 after leaving the Las Vegas Hilton. Less than a week earlier, he had declared his sobriety.

"There's just a point in your life where you kind of stop, that's what happened with me," Neil told an AP reporter in an interview about a tell-all book. Neil said he hadn't used drugs in 20 years and had stopped abusing alcohol.

Neil is the front man for a four-member heavy metal band known for bad behavior, hard partying, famous girlfriends and hard-driving hits like "Girls, Girls, Girls" and "Dr. Feelgood." He and his fourth wife, Lia, live in Las Vegas, where Neil also owns tattoo shops and two bars.

Police said following Neil's ar-

rest in June that they were also investigating a report of an incident that night involving Neil, a female fan and a broken camera in front of the Las Vegas Hilton, home of Neil's Tres Rios Cantina.

The case was closed after the woman declined to cooperate, department spokeswoman Barbara Morgan said Tuesday.

Neil's guilty plea won't be his first.

He pleaded guilty to manslaughter and drunken driving in a 1984 crash in Redondo Beach, California, that killed his passenger, Nicholas Dingley, a 24-year-old drummer with the group Hanoi Rocks.

Neil, then 25, wasn't injured. He served 20 days in jail and agreed to pay \$2.5 million in restitution to victims.

## Regis Philbin says he's retiring from his show

NEW YORK (AP)—Veteran broadcaster Regis Philbin says he's retiring from his weekday talk show.

Regis, 79, made the announcement at the start of Tuesday morning's "Live With Regis and Kelly," which he has hosted for a quarter-century, most recently sharing hosting duties with Kelly Ripa.

Philbin said he would be stepping down from the show around the end of the summer, but he didn't specify a departure date.

## Lesson backfires on student who pulls ill-conceived prank

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



*Dear Abby*

**DEAR ABBY:** I live in a dorm at a large university where a former friend, "Glen," also lives. We are no longer on speaking terms because of an incident that happened last year.

One day during pre-finals week, I left my room briefly to get something from a friend's room down the hall. I left my door unlocked because I'd be back soon. When I returned a few minutes later, my laptop, my cell phone and several books full of class notes were missing. I was distraught almost to the point of a breakdown.

Later that night, Glen knocked on my door and revealed that he had hidden the items in his room to "teach me a lesson" about not locking my door. I was speechless that a "friend" could do such a thing to me.

I notified the police and officials at the university. Glen was arrested for theft and charged with a misdemeanor. The university terminated his scholarship, and he was sentenced to community service.

Glen is now blaming me for what happened. He claims what he did wasn't really "stealing" and that I ruined his life. He's harassing me at every opportunity and spreading misinformation to my friends.

I believe I acted justly to what was plainly a case of theft. Am I wrong? How should I act in the case of Glen's current behavior?

VICTIM IN TEXAS

**DEAR VICTIM:** Your former friend appears to be emotionally disturbed. He has no one to blame but himself for what has happened to him. If you haven't already done so, warn him to stop the harassment—and if he doesn't, report it to the authorities. And don't worry about the misinformation he is trying to spread among your friends. If they are truly your friends, they'll believe you when you tell them they're being lied to.

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband and I have been arguing about his leaving the lights on throughout our house. He's convinced that it adds little to our electric bill, but it bothers me that every single light is left burning. I realize there is a cost difference between incandescent and fluorescent lighting, but leaving all the lights on seems unnecessary and wasteful to me. Could you please "shed some light" on our argument?

LIT UP IN JOHNSON CITY, TENN.

**DEAR LIT UP:** According to the Renewable Energy Policy Project (REPP) in Washington, D.C., leaving a 100-watt incandescent bulb on for 12 hours a day for one month will add \$40 per year to your electric bill. Multiply that by the number of bulbs in your home and it can add up quickly.

Fluorescent bulbs use fewer watts than incandescent bulbs, but turning them on ages the filaments—so if they'll be turned on again within a minute or two, leave them on. (This is not a recommendation to leave fluorescent bulbs burning constantly, just a suggestion that if they won't be needed after a few minutes, to turn them off.)

LED bulbs are more expensive to buy, but they last longer, use less wattage and emit brighter light. However, when the illumination is no longer needed, they, too, should be extinguished.

P.S. Since your husband has money to burn, why not invest in motion sensors so he'll have light wherever he goes without inflating your energy bills?

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby – Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)*

## Martin Sheen, Emilio Estevez working on memoir

NEW YORK (AP)—Martin Sheen and son Emilio Estevez are sharing their stories, in the same book.

The actors are working on a joint memoir titled "Along the Way." Free Press, an imprint of Simon & Schuster, announced Tuesday that the book would come out on Father's Day in 2012.

According to Free Press, the memoir will explore "the inner and outer stages of the journey of a father and son," including the upcoming movie "The Way," in which Estevez directs his father.

In this Jan. 12, 2007 file photo, Martin Sheen, left, and Emilio Estevez are seen following the 12th annual Critics' Choice Awards in Santa Monica, Calif.

AP



## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### Court sides with Mirror over legal fees payment

STRASBOURG, France (AP)—Some of the fees a British tabloid had to pay supermodel Naomi Campbell after losing a lawsuit were too high, a European high court ruled Tuesday. The European Court of Human Rights ruled against the paper having to pay the "success fee" Campbell agreed to pay her lawyers on top of other legal costs, arguing it didn't fit the offense. In 2004, Campbell won her battle against the *Daily Mirror*, which printed photographs in 2001 showing her leaving a drug counseling meeting. Britain's highest court ruled the paper breached Campbell's privacy by running the photos and a story detailing her treatment.

### Laura Linney to return to Broadway following loss

NEW YORK (AP)—Laura Linney was to return to Broadway's "Time Stands Still" on Tuesday night for the first time since her father's death. Romulus Linney, a prolific playwright, died Saturday in upstate New York. The actress dropped out of the play over the weekend. She wasn't on hand to accept her Golden Globe award Sunday night for her role in Showtime's "The Big C." Linney returns for the final weeks of "Time Stands Still," which closes Jan. 30 at the Court Theatre on 48th Street. The play also stars Brian d'Arcy James, Eric Bogosian and Christina Ricci. The marquee of Broadway theaters are to be dimmed Wednesday in honor of Romulus Linney and producer Ellen Stewart, who died last week.

### 'Sister Wives' family moves from Utah to Nevada

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—A Utah polygamous family whose reality TV show launched a criminal bigamy investigation has moved out of state. Washington-based attorney Jonathan Turley says his client Kody Brown has moved his family of four wives and 16 children to Nevada to pursue new opportunities. The family is featured on the TLC reality show "Sister Wives." The show first aired in the fall and triggered an investigation by Lehi police into allegations of bigamy. Brown is only legally married to one woman. Bigamy is a third-degree felony in Utah. Under the law, a person can be found guilty of bigamy through cohabitation, not just legal marriage contracts. No charges have been filed. Turley did not say where in Nevada the family had moved.

### David Cassidy drunken driving hearing postponed

FORT PIERCE, Florida (AP)—A judge says former teen idol David Cassidy is expected to enter a plea of guilty or no contest following a drunken driving charge in November. Cassidy didn't show up for a status hearing Tuesday, but Judge Cliff Barnes says he expected the 60-year-old "Partridge Family" star to enter a plea without attending a court hearing. If Cassidy enters the written plea, he'll likely be sentenced Feb. 16. Cassidy was arrested Nov. 3 after authorities said they spotted his car weaving on a major highway, The Stuart News reported. The Highway Patrol's report says Cassidy failed a field sobriety test. Authorities say breath tests at the jail showed his blood-alcohol content at 0.139 and 0.141, above Florida's legal limit of

0.08. Cassidy lives in Fort Lauderdale.

### Anderson Cooper's voice to grace Broadway

NEW YORK (AP)—CNN's Anderson Cooper is bringing his talents to Broadway. Well, at least his voice. The newsman will record the voice of the narrator in the upcoming revival of "How to Succeed in Business (Without Really Trying)." Walter Cronkite was the voice of the narrator in the 1995 revival of the musical starring Matthew Broderick. The part is pre-recorded. The latest version stars Daniel Radcliffe and John Larroquette. Previews begin Feb. 26 at the Al Hirschfeld Theatre on 45th Street. The show officially opens March 27.

### Melissa Etheridge to step into 'American Idol'

NEW YORK (AP)—Melissa Etheridge is about to get in touch with her punk side. The Grammy- and Oscar-winning singer will temporarily step in for Green Day's Billie Joe Armstrong while he takes a break from performing in his Broadway musical, "American Idiot." Etheridge, best known for her song "Come to My Window," will play drug dealer "St. Jimmy" from Feb. 1 to Feb. 6. Armstrong, the composer and co-author of the musical, returns Feb. 10. The high-octane show follows three working-class characters as they wrestle with modern life. One joins the Army, one becomes a father and one descends into a drug-fueled life—thanks to St. Jimmy. Says director Michael Mayer: "This character is seductive, thrilling and dangerous. Melissa Etheridge is all that and so much more."



# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Ostrich's cousin  
4 Obi, e.g.  
8 Luminary  
12 Police officer  
13 Look last-ly  
14 Sulk  
15 Against the current  
17 Eject  
18 Bill  
19 Studied primarily with "in"  
21 Light blond  
24 Enthusiast  
25 Journal  
26 AAA job  
28 Avoids  
32 Worked with  
34 Slight touch  
36 Lover's quarrel  
37 Make less bright  
39 Pouch  
41 Coll. transcript no.  
42 Luminox  
44 Follower of a pair of hps?

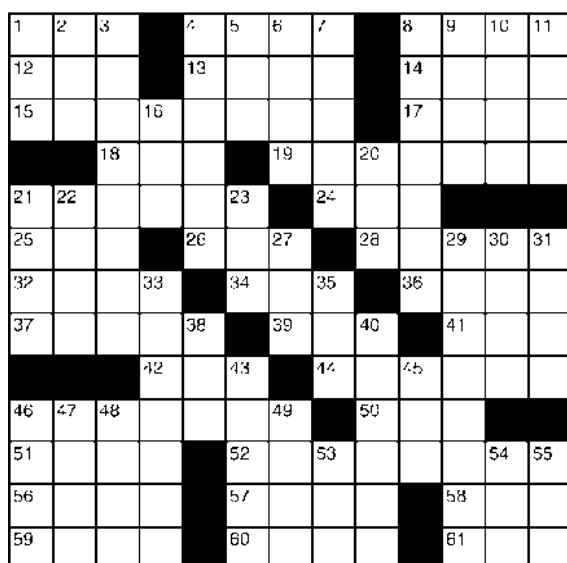
**DOWN**

46 Flute's little kin  
50 Lillie or Arthur  
51 Pennsylvaniana port  
52 On the ascendant  
56 Barracks array  
57 Carina  
58 Storm center  
59 Dangling site  
60 Tend texts  
61 Drops on the grass

**17 Fruity ice**  
**5 Time**  
**6 Bridge of your life?**  
**7 Macho type**  
**8 Gels even?**  
**9 Go sight-seeing**  
**10 Church area**  
**11 Pen-soned (Abbr.)**  
**16 Strain**  
**20 Roast's drippings, in a sense**  
**21 Blunder**  
**22 Mislay**  
**23 Affirmative action**  
**43 Lucky accident**  
**45 "the ramparts ..."**  
**46 Bushel fraction**  
**47 Press**  
**48 Give as an example**  
**49 Pundit's column**  
**53 Early Chinese dynasty**  
**54 Caustic solution**  
**55 Archery bow wood**

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 1-20**



## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! \$9.95 per minute, touch-tone/relay phones. (18+ only). A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Rainn Wilson, 45; Stacey Dash, 45; Bill Maher, 55; David Lynch, 65

**Happy Birthday:** Problems that have held you back in the past are lifting and additional discipline, desire and determination will be yours the next five months. Don't waste time or energy on anything but getting ahead and putting your efforts behind yourself. You'll have plenty of time to help others once you have achieved your own goals. Changes at home will be plentiful and inevitable by the fall. Your numbers are 3, 8, 13, 22, 36, 40, 47

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Don't feel pressured to make changes you aren't ready to make. Too much, too soon will be the problem. Focus more on enjoying the people with whom you share common interests. Love is in the stars. ★★★★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** You need a vacation or something that will get your mind in a positive place. Feeling hopeful will inspire and motivate you to take on a new challenge or to strive to reach the goals you set. Self-improvement will lead to confidence. ★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Go after your goals. Taking action is half the battle. What you learn right now will be easily implemented into your future. There are profits to be made but don't overspend. ★★★★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Getting involved in what's going on around you will make you a part of something important and will help you make difficult deci-

sions. You'll have the discipline and the added determination to follow through. ★★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You don't want to give away your secrets before you are ready to launch your plans. Socializing should be fun, not a chore. Someone you care about will give you a much better indication where you stand. ★★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Look at the positive and take advantage of whatever is available to you. Change is heading your way but it's up to you what you do with it. Make the most of it and you will prosper; let the negative seep in and you will not. ★★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Only you can decide whether to move backwards, sit idle or take a leap forward. You need greater diversity in your life and putting a push on what you want will help you progress in a life-changing direction. ★★★★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** It's about change and viewing life differently. A trip or a change of scenery for the day will open your mind up to a world of opportunities. It's time to get things moving instead of watching what you've done become outdated. ★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Tread carefully around the people most critical of your every move. Offer love, affection and good wishes to everyone around you if you expect to get positive response. A relationship can help you out emotionally and financially if you play your cards right. ★★★★★

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Don't limit

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

what you can do. A change in your community or neighborhood may need to be addressed. Be forceful but intelligent in the way you handle whatever situation you face. You want to win, not destroy. ★★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Don't let your emotions cause problems in your relationships. If you are too vocal about what you want or expect, you will meet with opposition or hurt someone's feelings. Positive actions will lead to the same in return. ★★★★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** You've got a lot to learn if you think you can bully someone into doing things your way. It will take compromise and coaxing to come to an understanding suitable to a collective group, allowing you to move forward. Focus on personal alterations. ★★★

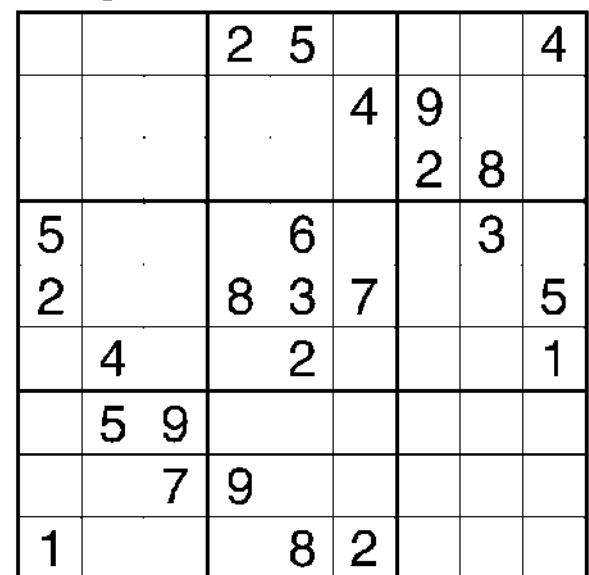
**Birthday Baby:** You are articulate and a competitor. You are aggressive and will always take on whatever and whoever stands in your way.

Eugenia's Web sites: [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations, [myspace.com/eugenialast](http://myspace.com/eugenialast) for Eugenia's blog, [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



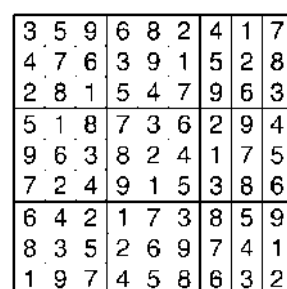
Difficulty Level ★★★

1/23

©2010 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle. — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Pick them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

FIRST INSTINCTS

Solution: 5 letters



Amateur, Attack, Care, Change, Compete, Complex, Conflict, Correct, Deft, Determination, Developing, Emotion, Excited, Fate, Fear, Feel, Fight, First, Flea, Freeze, Grounded, Guess, Hide, Hope, Humor, Idea, Illusion, Impulse, Inhibit, Inspire, Love, Memory, Move, Par, Pass, Pass on, Performance, Pay, Power, Refuse, Sense, Shock, Slip, Strategy, Sweet, Wave, Wish

Yesterday's Answer: Daquiri



# CLASSIFIED ADS



**FOR RENT - APARTMENT**

2 bedroom apartment in San Roque Village. Newly renovated. \$300/month. Call James 483-6985.

WHATZIT Solution: Strawberry shortcake

hope, strength and joy!  
“My wish is to become a firefighter!”  
Saipan Tribune



**WANTED**

One (1) well experienced **Bartender**  
Please submit resume ASAP to **ABYSS FISHERMAN'S BAR & RESTAURANT**  
Contact Maan at 233-0666 from 8am to 5pm or Wilma at 233-1666 from 5pm to 9pm

**MAKE-A-WISH**  
Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr., Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913  
Tel: (671) 649-WISH • Fax: (671) 646-6293  
Email: mawfguam@ite.net • www.wish.org  
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily

## FOR SALE

**ROTA PROPERTIES  
100% FINANCING  
AVAILABLE**

Call Bank of Saipan Loan Department at 235-6260 for inquiries.

### CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

#### CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

#### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

##### Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:  
- Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

#### CANCELLATION

##### Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

#### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

#### CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

#### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper  
Call 235-NEWS

## WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

# STRAWBERRY

CAKE

www.facebook.com/dingbatgames

Find today's solution in this section



# Wozniacki, Henin advance to third round



**MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)**—Caroline Wozniacki advanced to the third round of the Australian

Open with an emphatic 6-1, 6-0 win over American Vania King on Wednesday as her first major atop the rankings continued to gather momentum.

The 20-year-old Danish player was never troubled in the 58-minute match, breaking 88th-ranked King's serve to finish it off and reach the third round for a 13th consecutive Grand Slam tournament. She has yet to win a major, but has held the No. 1 ranking since October and can retain it by reaching the semifinals here.

To get to the semis, she might have to beat seven-time Grand Slam winner Justine Henin, who continued her comeback from injury with a 6-1, 6-3 win over Elena Baltacha of Britain on center court.

The pair could meet in the quarterfinals. Henin will have to get through a tough match against two-time major winner Svetlana Kuznetsova just to get past the third round. The 23-seeded Kuznetsova beat Dutch qualifier Arantxa Rus 6-1, 6-4.

"I have a lot of good memories, almost all good memories, from Melbourne," said Henin, the 2004 Australian champion and runner-up here in 2006 and last year, when she was returning from a career break from the tour.

Her comeback was stalled after Wimbledon—she couldn't play because of an elbow injury—and is making another return of sorts at Melbourne Park.

"I've been fighting hard the



Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark eyes on the ball for a return to Vania King of the U.S. during their second round match at the Australian Open tennis championships in Melbourne, Australia, Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2011.

last few months and it's great to be back in Australia."

Wimbledon finalist Tomas

Berdych needed four match points, struggling to finish it off with his serve in the last game,

to beat Philipp Kohlschreiber 4-6, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.

No. 8 Andy Roddick had no

such trouble, firing his 17th ace to finish off a 7-6 (7), 6-2, 6-3 second-round win over Igor Kunitsyn of Russia.

The former No. 1-ranked Roddick is into the third round at Melbourne Park for the ninth straight time.

Roddick's friend and U.S. Davis Cup teammate Mardy Fish made a second-round exit, the No. 16 seed losing 1-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3 to Tommy Robredo.

Japan's Kei Nishikori beat Germany's Florian Mayer 6-4, 6-3, 0-6, 6-3.

Including Wozniacki, three women could finish the tournament at No. 1. Kim Clijsters and Vera Zvonareva are the others, and they opened with straight sets first-round wins on Tuesday.

Clijsters had no charity for former No. 1-ranked Dinara Safina in a 6-0, 6-0 victory.

"I expect my opponent to come out and play their best tennis. She obviously didn't do that," said Clijsters, who has won the U.S. Open twice since returning to the tour from a break to have a child. "But my attitude still was there to try and finish it off and not let her get back in the match."

The first-round match involving Lleyton Hewitt, Clijsters' ex-fiance, was altogether different—a 4-hour, 48-minute five-set loss to David Nalbandian that ended at 1:10 a.m. Wednesday.

Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, the 2008 Australian Open finalist, came back from two sets down for the first time in his career in another late five-setter.

In 15 runs at the Australian Open, Hewitt's best finish was his 2005 final defeat. He'll be 30 next month. Australia hasn't

produced a homegrown winner of the national championship since Mark Edmondson in 1976. The drought isn't likely to end soon.

Now all the talk in Melbourne will be about Rafael Nadal and his pursuit for a "Rafa Slam."

The Spaniard played only 11 games in his opening match Tuesday, the match curtailed because of Marcos Daniel's injured left knee. Not content to extend his Grand Slam string of 22 match wins with the 6-0, 5-0 scoreline, Nadal went to the practice courts to work on his serve. That's the element of his game he thinks he needs to improve to become the first man in 41 years to hold all four majors at once.

Rod Laver last did it in 1969, in a calendar year. Nadal's bid for a "Rafa Slam" started a few months after he limped out of Melbourne Park last year with an injured knee after retiring from his Australian Open quarterfinal against Andy Murray. He then won the French, Wimbledon and U.S. Open titles. Murray, who lost last year's Australian final to Roger Federer, didn't have to go three full sets, either. He was leading Karol Beck 6-3, 6-1, 4-2 when the Slovakian retired with a shoulder problem. No. 4 Robin Soderling defeated Potito Starace 6-4, 6-2, 6-2.

After lopsided first-round wins, Federer and 2008 champion Novak Djokovic are back in action Wednesday in the second round.

Federer plays Gilles Simon, whom he hasn't beaten in their two previous matches and is one of only three men on tour with a winning record against him.

## Prince Fielder, Brewers settle at \$15.5 million



**NEW YORK (AP)**—Setting

himself up for an even bigger payday a year from now, Prince Fielder agreed Tuesday to a \$15.5 million contract with the Milwaukee Brewers in the largest one-year deal for a player not yet eligible for free agency.

On a day when 67 of the 119 players who filed for salary arbitration reached agreements, AL MVP Josh Hamilton, major league home run champion Jose Bautista and Houston pitcher Wandy Rodriguez submitted the largest proposed salaries when players and teams swapped proposed figures.

Hamilton asked Texas for \$12 million and was offered \$8.7 million; Bautista asked Toronto for \$10.5 million and was offered \$7.6 million; Rodriguez asked for \$10.25 million and was offered \$8 million.

Only 37 players exchanged with their clubs, and three of those already have agreements.

Boston and closer Jonathan Papelbon settled at \$12 million, and Texas agreed with left-hander C.J. Wilson at \$7 million and outfielder Nelson Cruz at \$2.65 million.

Those among the remaining 34 players who don't settle will have hearings before three-person panels during the first three weeks in February.

Owners won five of eight hearings last year, bringing their advantage to 285-210 since salary arbitration began in 1974. Still, players are winners in the process. Last year, a study by The Associated Press found the 128 players in arbitration averaged a raise of 121 percent, down from the record 172 percent increase in 2009.

Fielder's agreement topped Mark Teixeira's \$12.5 million deal with Atlanta in 2008. Both are represented by agent Scott Boras, who encourages clients to test the free-agent market.

"We're just focusing on this year," Brewers general manager Doug Melvin said during an in-

terview with the AP. "It's the best thing for all parties involved, with him going into his free agent year and us going into a year where we want to have a lot of success."

Fielder hit .261 with 32 homers and 83 RBIs last season, when he made \$11.25 million. It was the lowest batting average in his big league career.

"We took into consideration his previous years—the 50 homers, the 46 homers. I know last year he had a little bit of a decline, but I expect him to bounce back," Melvin said. "We feel he's ready to bounce back and have a big year."

The \$3.3 million gap between Texas and Hamilton was the largest, and the \$2.9 million difference between Toronto and Bautista was the second biggest. Hamilton made \$3,275,000 last year, when he led the majors with a .359 batting average, hit 32 home runs and had 100 RBIs despite missing most of the final month because of broken ribs. Bautista hit .260 with 54 homers and 124 RBIs, and he made \$2.4 million.

"Philosophically, we don't see eye-to-eye right now and that's OK. That's why we have the process in place," Blue Jays general manager Alex Anthopoulos said during a conference call. "We both realize there's no one who's right or wrong, both sides make a compelling case and it's very fair, and that's why we need a third party to make a determination of what the right value for the player is."

At the other end of the arbitration pay scale, the smallest difference between submitted figures was \$350,000, with Texas offering Darren O'Day \$1.05 million and the relief pitcher asking for \$1.4 million.

Among free agents, the New York Yankees finalized a \$35 million, three-year contract with Rafael Soriano, adding a proven closer who will become Mariano Rivera's setup man.

Arizona agreed to one-year deals with right-hander Aaron Heilman (\$2 million) and utility man Willie Bloomquist (\$900,000).

## NFL players' union files collusion claim



**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The NFL players' union filed a collusion claim against the league's

owners, another move in the back-and-forth between the sides as they near the expiration of their labor contract.

The union originally had until December—90 days after the start of the season—to accuse teams of conspiring to restrict players' salaries last off-season, but the league agreed to extend that deadline.

"They have filed that claim. They filed it probably a week ago. There has been no activity at this point. But it's something that was not unexpected," the league's lead labor negotiator, Jeff Pash, said Tuesday, when owners met in Atlanta. "It's just another piece of litigation that we have to work our way through. So we will do that."

The case is before Stephen Burbank, the same special master who is considering a com-

plaint about the league's TV contracts, which the union says were set up to guarantee the NFL money even if there were a lockout this year.

Union spokesman George Atallah said Tuesday he could not comment on the collusion case. Pash said no date has been scheduled for a hearing.

"It is something they were committed to doing. Their attorneys told us that they didn't see any reason to delay it any further," Pash said. "Our reaction was, 'That's fine. If you feel you have a claim and want to file, go ahead and file.'"

Collusion has been an issue in Major League Baseball, and as recently as September, for example, players and owners in that sport settled allegations of possible collusion against free agents after the 2008 and 2009 seasons. As part of the agreement—with no admission of guilt by the teams—some of baseball's free-agency rules were changed.



# Hawks send Heat to 4th straight loss



**MIAMI (AP)**—Josh Smith made a go-ahead layup with 34.7 seconds left in overtime, Joe Johnson scored 19 points and the Atlanta Hawks beat Miami 93-89 on Tuesday night to send the Heat to a fourth straight loss.

Johnson had a game-tying layup with 25.4 seconds left in regulation and two game-sealing free throws with 5.2 seconds remaining in overtime. Jamal Crawford also scored 19 for Atlanta.

LeBron James scored 34 points and grabbed 10 rebounds for Miami, but missed a long 3-pointer at the end of regulation and another 28-foot try as the shot clock was expiring late in overtime and the Heat down by two.

Dwyane Wade finished with 27 points for the Heat, who got 16 rebounds—with no shot attempts—from Joel Anthony.

The Heat had a chance to win it at the end of regulation after Johnson knotted the game, but chose not to call time-out for a final play. Instead, they worked the clock down and set up James for a 28-footer that banged off the side of the rim just before the buzzer.

Miami had three game-tying scores in overtime, the last of those coming when James made a 3-pointer with 51.9 seconds left. The Heat didn't score again.

Atlanta got 15 points and 12 rebounds from Smith, 15 points from Mike Bibby and 11 from Mo Evans. The Hawks tried a season-high 31 3-pointers, making seven.

Eddie House scored 12 for Miami, and Mario Chalmers added 10.

The Hawks played most of the second half without Al Horford, who sprained his right ankle early in the third and departed with six points and nine rebounds.

Miami's lead was 70-64 when Wade made a fadeaway jumper with 4:26 left, but on a night where neither team ever enjoyed much in the way of offensive flow, the Heat picked the wrong time to go cold.

Bibby's fourth 3-pointer of the game with 2:32 left got Atlanta within 72-70. Evans tied it a half-minute later with a pair of free throws, Smith hit two more to give the Hawks the lead, and Bibby made another for a 75-72 edge with 1:23 remaining.

That's when James tried to take over.

A pair of free throws got Miami within one, and he simply overpowered Bibby for a layup and foul to give the Heat a 77-75 edge - but Johnson sent the game into extra time.

Anthony's start—just the fifth of his career at power forward—was needed because Chris Bosh sat out with a sprained left ankle. James' status for the game wasn't clear until just before game time because he, too, has been hobbled by a sprained left ankle.

"We do have versatility on the roster," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said before the game. "This is probably the time it'll show the most, playing guys that weren't necessarily playing big minutes, they'll be able to step up and have their opportunity."



Atlanta Hawks' Joe Johnson (2) shoots past Miami Heat's LeBron James (6) in the third quarter during an NBA basketball game in Miami, Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2011.

Anthony must have been listening. According to STATS LLC, only Dennis Rodman—who had 20 rebounds with no attempted free throws or field goals for San Antonio on Jan. 25, 1994, plus had an 18-rebound, no-shot game for the Spurs three weeks earlier—had at least 16 rebounds in a game without ever trying a shot of any sort.

It wasn't enough, on a night when there were plenty of rebounds to be had. Atlanta nearly held the Heat to single digits in the opening quarter, setting the tone for an offensively challenged night all around.

Only Chalmers' buzzer-beating 3-pointer at the end of the first saved Miami from that indignity, as Atlanta—which forced the Heat into missing 15 of their first 18 shots—ended the opening quarter up 19-11. James started 1 for 8 from the floor, missing his last six tries of the period.

The Hawks' befuddling of Miami continued in the second. When Bibby hit a 3-pointer with 6:37 to

play in the half, Atlanta led 30-17, and the Heat looked totally lost.

It changed quickly.

Miami scored the game's next 13 points, James getting five of them, including a shot in the lane with 2:47 left—moments after Anthony blocked a dunk attempt by Johnson—that knotted the game at 30. Eddie House's 3-pointer 42 seconds later put the Heat on top, and Miami took a 35-34 lead into halftime.

The Heat shooting improved in the third quarter as well—up to 46 percent, less than riveting but far better than the showing in the first half. Turnovers, though, were the damning factor.

Atlanta forced six takeaways in the third, getting 13 points off them, more than enough to stay in the game. The Hawks led 58-55 going into the fourth, after a third period that featured five lead changes, four ties and neither team ever leading by more than six.

## Bobcats 83, Bulls 82

At Chicago, D.J. Augustin scored 15 points, Gerald Wallace had 13 points and 16 rebounds and the Charlotte Bobcats held off the Chicago Bulls.

Boris Diaw and Stephen Jackson added 12 points apiece to help the Bobcats snap a three-game losing streak, with their last win coming at home against the Bulls last Wednesday.

Derrick Rose scored 33 points to lead Chicago, but missed a shot at the buzzer. Ronnie Brewer had 12 points and Luol Deng added 10 for the Bulls, who were playing without injured forward Carlos Boozer—second on the team in scoring (20.1 points per game) and rebounds (10.1).

The Bulls got a chance for the win after an official's review gave them ball at their own end. Initially, a deflected ball had been awarded to Charlotte, but the review showed that the ball went off Augustin's fingertips.

# Nets-Nuggets can't agree on Melo trade framework

**NEWARK, N.J. (AP)**—A person with knowledge of the proposed Carmelo Anthony trade says the holdup is over the framework of the deal, not the All-Star forward's willingness to commit to New Jersey.

Though they appeared close to a deal 11 days ago, the teams are still negotiating what the Nets would send to Denver, the person told The Associated Press on Tuesday on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly about the trade.

New Jersey has offered to ship six players and at least two first-round draft picks to Denver in the deal that would send Anthony to the Nets along with former Pistons teammates Chauncey Billups and Richard Hamilton.

But the teams haven't been able to agree on the exact price that will persuade the Nuggets to finally part with their franchise player.

The person added that the Nets are not concerned about Anthony's commitment to the franchise for the long term should the trade be completed, saying they are convinced the 26-year-old will sign a \$65 million, three-year contract extension if New Jersey, Denver and Detroit can agree on the others parts of the deal.

The teams continued their negotiations on Tuesday, but little was happening, the person said.

Anthony has refused to sign an extension that the Nuggets put on the table before the season started, leading Denver to listen to trade proposals.

The Nets and Nuggets came close to making a deal for Anthony before the season started. Talks renewed in earnest after New Year's with more than a dozen players involved in what has to be considered a megadeal.

However, the on-again, off-again process appears to be weighing on Anthony and casual observers.

"I stopped following it. It's getting to the point where you're just like, move on already or don't," said Miami guard Dwyane Wade, a friend of Anthony's. "I'm sure 'Melo is more tired of it than anybody. But it's just to the point, as a sports fan, you're just, 'All right, it's just enough.' I'm sure for everybody in Denver and everybody in New Jersey as well, and whatever other team comes into it, it's been a long saga. It's been a long soap opera. Hopefully it comes to an end and they can focus on basketball."

There were reports over the weekend that the Nets had asked for and received permission from the Nuggets to talk to Anthony.

The high-scoring forward scoffed when asked about them Sunday, calling the reports false.

"I don't want to talk to nobody," Anthony said. "I'll let the front office handle that. It ain't my job to be talking to New Jersey, New York, Lakers, Dallas, no one. That's not my job to do."

Anthony, who could become a free agent at this season, is the centerpiece of the deal and a star that New Jersey feels it can build a team around, especially when it moves to Brooklyn for the 2012-13 season.

New Jersey would send point guard Devin Harris, rookie power forward Derrick Favors, the third draft pick overall, guards Anthony Morrow, Quinton Ross and Ben Uzoh, swingman Stephen Graham and at least two first-round draft picks to Denver.

In addition to Anthony and Billups, the Nuggets would send Shelden Williams and Terrico White, who is injured, to the Nets.

The Pistons would receive veteran Troy Murphy and center Johan Petro for Hamilton. Murphy has a \$12 million contract that will expire after this season.

Since the trade talk started, the Nets have gone into a tailspin, losing six straight games, including all four on a West Coast trip that ended in Oakland on Monday.

New Jersey returns to action on Wednesday at home against Utah, and new owner Mikhail Prokhorov plans to be at the game to celebrate an evening of Russian culture.

Prokhorov, who took over the team last year, also plans to talk to the media about his first full year at the helm, a season that has seen New Jersey post a 10-31 record at the halfway point, the second-worst record in the Eastern Conference.

Nets coach Avery Johnson said Monday he hasn't been told of any potential meeting with Anthony, adding he expected no roster change before the game against the Jazz.







# 2010 NMIFA Women's Futsal Fall League



MP United's Nola Hix tries to stop the ball.



Two Independents strikers in action during their game against MP United.

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Matansa's Elisa Fejeran chases the ball.



Independents' Linday Davis, left, and MP United's Natalie Hill battle for the ball during their A league playoff game in the 2010 NMIFA Women's Futsal Fall League last Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.



An MHS U18 player (blue uniform) tries to steal the ball from three Tan Holdings strikers during their regular season game at the JP Center Basketball Court.



Tan Holdings players and their supporters pose for a group photo after beating MP United, 3-2.

Right, MP United and Tan Holdings players in action during their B league playoff match.



Matansa and Shirley's Coffee Shop players fight for the ball near center court.



Independents goalie Cathy Anderson picks up the ball for a save during their game against Paire.



Hawks send Heat to 4th straight loss

25

# Saipan Tribune Sports

28 THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2011

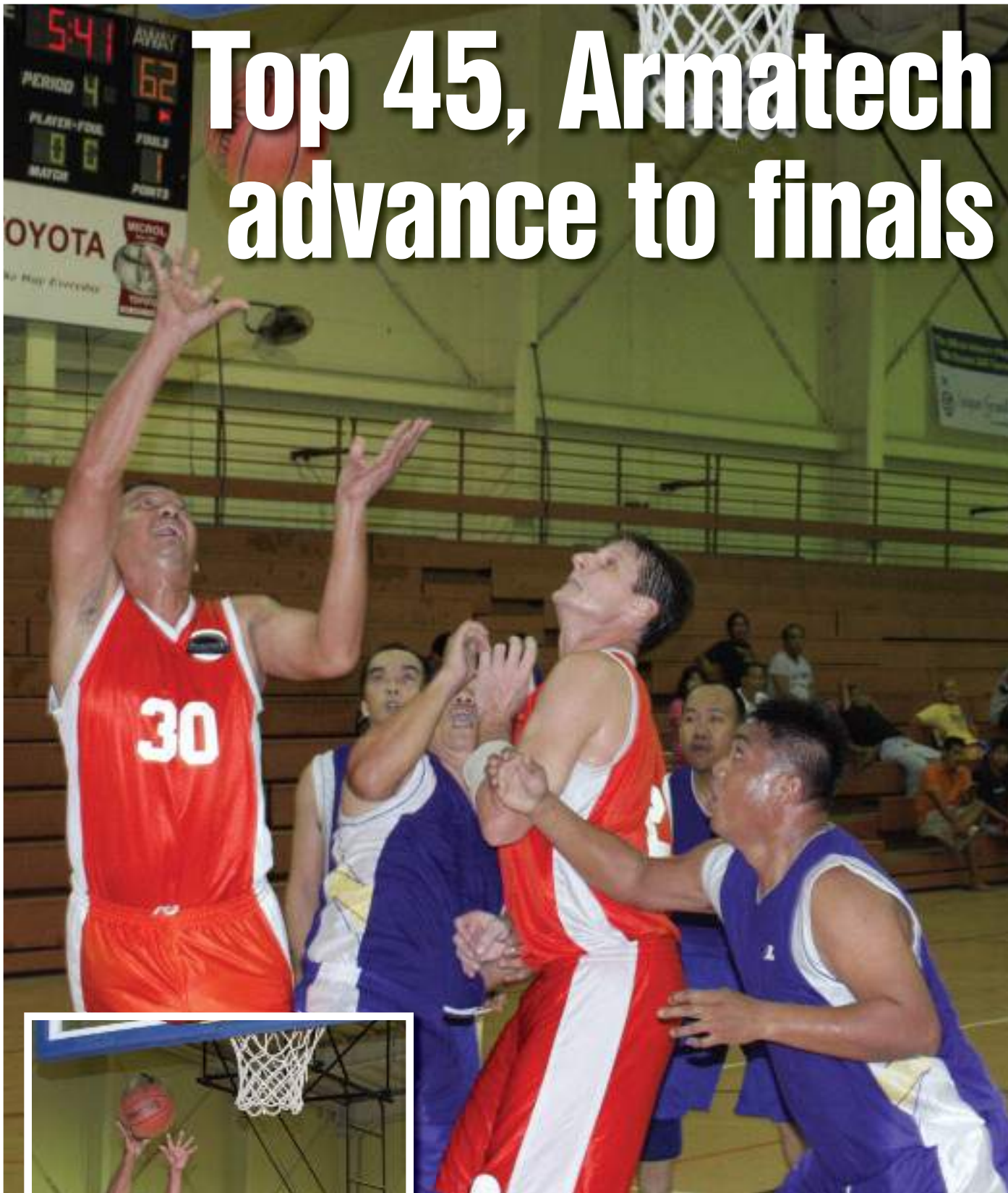


Wozniacki, Henin advance to third round

24

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Top 45, Armatech advance to finals



Top 45's Ed Cosino goes up for a stick back after wrestling out a rebound in last Tuesday's MBFNM Memorial Cup 45A semifinal game against Taga Security at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Inset, Armatech's Martin Moreno goes up for a two-handed layup in their 40A semifinal match against Islander Rent-A-Car.

By WALTER SUTHERLAND  
walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



Top 45 and Armatech advanced to their respective Marianas Basketball Federation of the NMI Memorial Cup finals after vanquishing separate rivals Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

See TOP 45 on Page 26

## Meimban, Matutino take January Ace

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



Richard Meimban and Adony Matutino drew first blood for Fil-Taga Golfers Association,

clinching the January Ace titles in their respective divisions last Sunday at the Marianas Country Club.

Meimban took the January Ace in Division B after firing a net 71, while

See MEIMBAN on Page 26

Meimban

Matutino



## 50 off-island entries in XTERRA



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Participants gather at the shore off Micro Beach waiting for the swim leg of the 2010 XTERRA Saipan Championship.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The 2011 XTERRA Saipan Championship is expected to draw 50 off-island participants, including defending champions Sam Gardner and Renata Bucher.

"Sam Gardner and Renata Bucher are defending their doubles title. The total off-island participants should be about 50," Taga, Inc. president Wolf Mojica said.

Gardner cruised to his second straight men's division title in XTERRA World Tour's Crown Jewel after submitting a record time of three hours, 34 minutes, and three seconds in the 1.5-kilometer swim, 30-km mountain bike race, and 12-km trail run. The triathlete from the United Kingdom beat his 2009 win-

ning time of 3:34:32.

Bucher of Switzerland extended her winning run in XTERRA Saipan to six last year, clocking in at 2:58:19 to beat American pro Shonny Vandlandingham (3:07:04).

"Daz Parker will also be back as well as Mike Vine. We have gotten several inquiries from Austria and Canada as well. We are expecting at least two Japanese pros for XTERRA," Mojica added.

Daz or Darrelle Parker finished fifth in last year's XTERRA, placing behind fellow Brit and XTERRA Saipan first-timer Emma Ruth Smith. Parker completed the off-road race in 3:39:23, while Smith submitted 3:14:47.

Parker turned pro in XTERRA World last year, but besides being a multi-sports athlete, she

See 50 OFF-ISLAND on Page 26

## MHS 2 ties KHS in MISO soccer



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A Kagman High School midfielder sends the ball up field in last Tuesday's MISO Girl's Varsity Soccer game against Marianas High School 2 at the Saipan Southern High School soccer field.

By WALTER SUTHERLAND  
walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



Marianas High School 2 overcame a two-goal deficit in the first half to force a 2-2 draw against Kagman High School in the Mariana Islands Sports Organization Girls Varsity Soccer game last Tuesday at the Saipan Southern High School soccer field.

KHS has two draws in as many games after tying MHS 1, 1-1, last Wednesday.

Along with this draw, MHS 2 has a victory from its forfeit win over SSSHS in the season opener last Jan. 10.

Nichelle Sablan drew first blood for KHS with a goal in the ninth minute of the first half. Then her teammate Andrea Camacho put KHS ahead, 2-0, about three minutes before halftime.

KHS head coach Megan Herber was pleased with her team's performance starting out. During the break she reminded them that although

See MHS on Page 26